



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.
ESTABLISHED 1859.

Head Office: 42 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Telegrams: "Chemicus London." Telephone 852 Bank.

Branches: ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, AND SYDNEY, AUST

Subscription Rates.

Ten shillings a year in advance, post free to any part of the world, including a copy of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* next published. Subscriptions may begin any month. Single copy, 4d.: Summer or Winter Number, 1s.: *Diary*, 8s. 6d. Postal orders and cheques to be crossed "Martin's Bank (Limited)."

Prix de l'abonnement annuel: le journal une fois par semaine, et l'agenda une fois par an, 12-60 francs, franco.

Jährlicher Abonnementspreis: die Zeitung einmal wöchentlich, und der Notizkalender einmal im Jahre, 10 Mark, postfrei.

Precio de suscripción anual: el periodico una vez por semana, y el agenda una vez por año, 12-60 pesetas, franco.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has the largest weekly circulation of any journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by eighteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all countries having business relations with this country is intrinsically and numerically unique.

Terms for advertising in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST can be obtained on application to the Publisher at the above address.

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INSETS.

THE Publisher of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is now booking orders for the insertion of booklets, circulars, and price-lists in the Winter Issue as insets. The Issue falls on January 30, 1909. The Winter Issue affords the alert business man, who wishes to appeal to the drug and chemical trades, his great advertising opportunity. It is another of the series of world-famed Special Issues of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST with illuminated covers, artistic insets, and attractive advertisements. The advertisements are carefully followed by men in business in India, Australia, Canada, South Africa, West Indies, New Zealand, China, Japan, the United States, South America, Egypt, and on the European Continent as well as the United Kingdom. For full particulars write to the Publisher, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

OUR VERBATIM REPORT of the second reading of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill is completed in this issue, beginning on p. 941.

FOR THE REPORT STAGE of the Bill several amendments were put down, and are printed on p. 939. This stage was reached on Thursday afternoon. Two of the amendments were agreed to, one putting apothecaries' assistants on the same footing as Army compounders, and the other postponing enforcement of the Act until April 1, 1909. The Bill was read a third time and was sent to the House of Lords for approval. It will be law this week most likely (p. 944).

In the article on p. 939 we submit several matters which deserve the consideration of chemists.

THE P.A.T.A. COUNCIL election results are given on p. 923.

Two unusual cases of poisoning of children by inadvertence are reported on p. 924.

INDUSTRIAL METHYLATED SPIRIT may be used for making hair-washes on the conditions mentioned on p. 940.

IT HAS BEEN DECIDED in the Marylebone County Court that hair-wash and medicine are personal luggage (p. 930).

THE Cape Colony medicine-tax can only be enforced civilly. So a magistrate has decided at King Williams Town (p. 928).

THE *C. & D. Diary* for 1909 has been issued this week to home subscribers, who are asked to read the note about it which is on p. 936.

A RECRUDESCENCE OF CUTTING is reported from several parts of the country, and we counsel chemists not to throw their profits away (p. 940).

THE NOBEL PRIZES include a cheque for 7,680*l.*, as well as a medal and diploma. A brief sketch of Professor Rutherford's career is given on p. 927.

"XRAYSER" declares that on no occasion during the passage of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill through Parliament has either House shown appreciation of its proposals (p. 935).

BRITISH PERFUMERY EXPORTS are increasing, and we endeavour in an article on p. 936 (which deals with manufacture in bond) to show how the business may be still further extended.

THE NEW AUSTRALIAN BILL for regulating the importation of proprietary medicines and infants' foods is printed on p. 929, where the differences between it and a former objectionable measure of the same character are indicated.

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA will be considerably curtailed in the next edition if the Therapeutic Committee of the British Medical Association has its way. It recommends over a hundred articles to be struck out (see p. 935 and p. 937).

SEVERAL PRACTICAL SUBJECTS were discussed at the North British Branch on Wednesday. Mr. Lothian showed how ichthylol behaves in soap-combinations; Mr. Dott described experiments which indicate that the formula for apomorphine hydrochloride must be changed. A few dispensing notes were also submitted by Mr. G. Simpson (p. 945).

WINTER SESSION TOPICS include the following: Pharmaceutical Problems (at Thames Valley, p. 947); the B.P. Codex (at Bath and at West London, pp. 947-8); Prophecy by Mr. T. Maben (p. 948); Stocktaking methods (Mr. J. W. Sutherland, p. 948), and other trade subjects at Glasgow (p. 949).

THERE is a good undercurrent of business about the markets considering the period of the year, but price-alterations are few. They include an advance in morphine salts (as was forecasted last week), glycerin, American peppermint oil, ergot, taraxacum, and gambier. Cod-liver oil is firmer. Shellac, copper sulphate, and foreign tartaric acid are all easier (p. 950).

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

THE offices of the *C. & D.*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., will be closed on Thursday evening, December 24, until Tuesday morning, December 29, at 9 A.M. Copies of the *C. & D.* for December 26 and of the Coloured Supplement can be obtained at the office on Thursday, December 24. Advertisers and correspondents are requested to note that we go to press a day earlier next week—viz. on Wednesday, December 23, and their communications should be expedited accordingly.

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

At Liverpool on December 9, John Hyland, Garston, was fined 10*l.* and 2*l.* 19*s.* costs, for selling beer containing $\frac{1}{10}$ grain of arsenic per gal.

"The Times," in noting the registration of the The British Drug Houses, Ltd., says: "Each of the combining houses was founded upwards of 150 years ago."

"The grave dangers which are risked by an unqualified person carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist must be obvious to anybody," says the "Sussex Daily News," *à propos* of a Pharmacy Act case reported in this issue.

The Teddington Urban District Council have approved plans from Mr. D. Edwards, chemist and druggist, 7 The Causeway, Teddington, for the erection of a temporary shed for storing goods, provided it is constructed of corrugated iron.

The forty-third annual Chemists' Ball will be held at the Wharfedale Rooms, Great Central Hotel, London, N.W., on January 13. Tickets (lady's 12*s.* 6*d.*, gentleman's 17*s.* 6*d.*, double 25*s.*) from Mr. F. U. Stamp, 29 High Street, Hampstead, N.W.

At the annual meeting of the Darwen Tradesmen's Association on December 10, Alderman R. Shorrocks, Mr. W. H. Lomax, and Mr. W. Standing, chemists and druggists, were elected on the committee. Practically all the chemists of Darwen are members of the Association.

The premises of Messrs. J. Young & Sons, chemists, Dock Street, Newport, Mon., were entered by a burglar between Friday night and Saturday morning last. Entrance was obtained by breaking a pane of glass, through which the burglar wriggled. He did some damage to the place and stole 5*s.* in coppers.

A meeting of chemists' assistants and apprentices was held in Grimsby on Tuesday, December 15, for the purpose of organising a football club. Mr. A. E. Osborne presided. A full team was formed which will affiliate with the Lincolnshire Football Association. The leaders are Mr. C. Chapman, captain; Mr. W. Cocking, vice-captain; Mr. B. J. Hennemann, secretary and treasurer.

At the meeting of the Liverpool Section of the Society of Chemical Industry on December 9, the subject for the evening was a paper by Professor F. G. Donnan, on "The Training of Technical Chemists," which was afterwards discussed. The remedy advocated was the introduction of teaching reforms based upon consultation and co-operation between manufacturers and university authorities.

Complaints reach us from the Plymouth district of proprietaries being sold under the protected prices. A company began it, and most chemists have reduced their prices to the same level. Among the "cuts" are Elliman's embrocation, 10½*d.*; Beecham's pills, 9½*d.*; Hazeline Snow, 10*d.*; Owbridge's lung- tonic, 1*s.* 1½*d.* size 9½*d.*, 2*s.* 9*d.* size 2*s.* 1*d.*; and Williams's Pink pills, 1*s.* 10*d.*

The Lord Mayor of London presided over a meeting at the Mansion House on December 11 to consider the question of cable reform. The meeting passed a series of resolutions urging the desirability of obtaining low-priced, easy, and uniform means of telegraph communication within the Empire. Substantially the aim is to push reform towards Mr. Henniker Heaton's latest idea of penny-a-word cablegrams.

The Litherland Urban District Council, at a meeting held on December 8, refused to sanction the recommendation of the Health Committee that the medical officer of health be allowed to give a further three months' trial of certain lozenges in scarlet-fever cases. A member of the Council objected to the continuance of the supply, as it was stated that no other local authority used the lozenges, and he thought that a small town like Litherland should not lead the way in such a matter.

Society of British Dentists.

An adjourned meeting was held at the temporary offices, Spencer Street, London, E.C., on December 11, to elect the

Committee of Management. Mr. Jas. T. Hoare (Goswell Road, E.C.) was voted to the chair. The Secretary reported that he had already received subscriptions from several dentists who were willing to become members. The committee were duly appointed. The first meeting for election of Chairman and officers was arranged to be held early in the New Year. In the course of discussion it was pointed out that since the inception of the Society last May (*C. & D.*, May 23) the appeal case *Barnes v. Brown* had been decided, and in consequence it is anticipated that much desirable work can be accomplished by the Society, the provisional committee having already obtained three convictions for infringements of the Dentists Act, 1878, while other cases are under consideration for taking proceedings.

Co-operative Societies and Income-tax.

The Luton Tradesmen's Association has addressed letters to similar Associations throughout the country urging them to bring before the notice of the Premier and the Chancellor of the Exchequer the question of payment of income-tax by co-operative societies. It is urged that the present method of conducting such societies, registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act is entirely contrary to the spirit of such Act, as they are now simply trading concerns doing business for profit; that as they keep open shop and deal with non-members, and also tender for and execute public contracts, they should, in fairness to the whole community, be compelled to re-register under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1907, and to comply with the provision of those Acts. If this were done, co-operative societies would pay income-tax on their trading profits.

Pharmaceutical and Surgical Curiosities.

Some interesting relics relating to the craft in days gone by were to be seen in one of the West-end auction-rooms on Tuesday last, December 15. Included in the collection was a unique wood-block depicting the interior of a chemist's shop in the year 1497, together with a print from the original. The block is one of the woodcuts which figured in the scarce work by Jerome of Brunswick, known as "Das Buch der Chirurgia—1497." Another lot which was offered at the same time was a copy of "Salmon's Synopsis Medicinæ—1679." This volume, which contained no fewer than 1,287 pages, included the complete Pharmacopœia of the seventeenth century, and also much quaint occult and astrological information. It is illustrated with a large number of diagrams, including many representations of surgical instruments. There were also offered half-a-dozen rare eighteenth-century surgical instruments, consisting of three sets of lancets (with brass, horn, and tortoise-shell handles—one dated 1781), a tooth-extractor and bone-scraper, and a print of a fortune-teller by Callot, and another of medical interest.

School-children's Eyes and Teeth.

The sub-committee appointed by the London County Council to inquire into the question of medical treatment of school-children has issued its report. The committee considers that although sufficient accommodation exists for children requiring operative or in-patient attendance, the facilities for dealing with less acute ailments are inadequate. A majority favour the establishment of school clinics at suitable centres for the treatment of diseased conditions, such as eye and teeth troubles, adenoids, chronic ear-cases, and scalp-ailments. A minority, however, recommend utilising existing institutions, giving financial aid if necessary, and receiving special facilities in return for the grants. The children's teeth are stated to be in an extremely unsatisfactory state, owing mainly to neglect of proper feeding during infancy and childhood. Only three children out of 245 seen by one doctor used a tooth-brush, and 227 out of 290 girls at one of the schools required attention to the teeth. The report states that sufficient provision does not appear to exist in London either for the conservative treatment or even the extraction of the teeth. It is further computed that 60,000 of the children suffer from defective vision. The errors are principally those of refraction, and only a small proportion of the cases can be dealt with by the hospitals. Complaints are being continually received from the hospitals that the examination of simple refractive errors is without great professional interest and is a serious strain on them. It was ascertained that the Council's money

was wasted to a great extent, owing to the fact that children seen by the Council's oculist did not obtain further advice. The committee thinks that additional provision is necessary to overcome this difficulty. The Education Committee decided on December 16 in favour of the minority report.

Tooth-brush clubs have been started by the headmistress of the L.C.C. Girls' School at Islington. Tooth-brushes are supplied at 2d. each and farding instalments taken on them if necessary from the poorer children. The children are taught and urged to use them. An application is to be made to the London County Council for the supply of tooth-brushes at half-price.

Birmingham Notes.

Birmingham pharmacists are beaming at the prospects of the passing of the Pharmacy Bill, nearly all agreeing that it may be a useful measure if it passes.

A Birmingham analyst brought an action against Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, nephew of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, to recover damages in the matter of a patent, but at the Birmingham Assizes the case was dismissed.

At a complimentary dinner given to Sir Thomas Barclay by his political friends last week, Lord Beauchamp sent a letter of congratulation to the new pharmaceutical knight on the occasion of the honour done him by his Majesty the King.

According to a writer in the "Birmingham Mail," Mr. Wm. Partridge, of Messrs. Southall's, is acknowledged to be one of the best exponents of the Lumière autochrome method of photography in this country. He has produced some delightful pictures.

An occasional correspondent, writing from Birmingham, says trade is very quiet there. Cod-liver oil is offered at 3½d. per 4-oz. bottle, or 6d. for 8 oz. As a result, one go-ahead firm warns the public not to buy shark oil, and to be careful what cod-liver oil emulsion they buy. There is grumbling about cutting of certain "patents" below the protected prices.

Analysts' Affairs.

Mr. R. Bodmer, F.I.C., London, has been appointed public analyst for the borough of Northampton, in succession to the late Sir Thomas Stevenson.

Mr. A. E. Brown, B.Sc., F.I.C., has been appointed temporary analyst to the borough of Greenwich until March 31, 1909. Applications are to be invited for the position, which was rendered vacant by the death of Mr. R. H. Harland. The fee is 10s. per sample.

The General Purposes Committee of the Surrey County Council had before them on December 17 a large number of applications for the position of county analyst, vacant through the death of Sir Thomas Stevenson. The following three were selected to go forward to the full Council, which meets in January: Mr. E. J. Parry, B.Sc., F.I.C., Mr. C. T. Richards, F.I.C., and Mr. Edward Hinks, F.I.C.

The Westminster City Council report that a sample of quinine wine was found to be practically devoid of quinine, and that proceedings will be instituted against the vendor. Action is also to be taken in regard to a sample of fluid magnesia which was 76 per cent. deficient in magnesium bicarbonate; while in another sample of the same drug, which was 15 per cent. deficient, the vendor is to be cautioned.

Mr. E. Hinks, B.Sc., F.I.C., has been appointed temporary analyst to the borough of St. Pancras until January 28, 1909. Applications will be invited for the permanent position at a salary of 300l. per annum for the examination of 750 samples, half of which will be of milk, with a fee of 7s. 6d. for each additional sample. The agreement will include clauses in respect to possible future modifications regarding provision of the borough's own laboratory, the analyst's services, and the report of the composition of all milk samples. The amount expended on food and drug analysis in the borough last year was about 440l., with an additional amount of 86l. for bacteriological examinations and clinical materials.

Leicester Notes.

Mr. W. H. La Rix has a fine window-show of sponges at 16 New Bond Street just now.

Mr. F. C. Peberdy, chemist, has removed from 57 Waterloo Street to more commodious premises at No. 46, directly opposite.

The Wand football team up to the present have played eleven matches this season, and have not lost one—a record for Leicester football.

Mr. Lewis Ough, Ph.C., F.C.S., Leicester, was last week elected President of the South Midlands Devon and Cornwall Association for 1909.

Mr. W. T. Hind, Queen's Road, Clarendon Park, has one of the prettiest and original Christmas-window shows in Leicester. He is not far from the village of Knighton, which he has represented in his window, showing village church, etc., as a backing for his Knighton perfume.

Sheffield and District Notes.

The 214th annual meeting of the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union was held at Doncaster on December 10, and the annual conversation of the local scientific society was held in conjunction with it. Mr. W. H. Stiles, Ph.C., exhibited a local rainfall chart, and contributed otherwise to the success of the meeting.

The annual report of the Sheffield Royal Infirmary shows a falling-off of 353l. 17s. 6d. in workmen's contributions, significant of the unemployment rife in the city. The drug-bill for the year amounted to 827l. 2s. 10d., and 873l. 3s. 11d. was expended on gauze, wool bandages, jaconet, etc. The list of casualty cases includes nineteen poisonings and one "intoxication," seven of lead and four alcohol.

"Five ha'porths" turns up in Sheffield periodically like the proverbial bad penny. A leading local educationist has startled the city by reporting the evidence given by a witness before the Consultative Committee of the Board of Education, who stated that, when he visited the house of a "baby-minder" in Sheffield, he found eleven infants in the room, all asleep, and on the table was a saucer containing what is locally known as "five ha'porths." When a child woke, a tube was inserted in its mouth, and it was given a dose of the concoction, which includes laudanum, to send it off to sleep again.

Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

The recent voting for the Retail Section of the Council has resulted in the following gentlemen being elected:

Pickard, S. N., Ossett ...	649	Sutherland, J. W., Glasgow	658
Rowell, P. F., Exeter ...	649	Grayson, H. W., London	622
Feaver Clarke, R., Gravesend	648	Atkinson, J. G., Upper Norwood	621
Colley, H. W., Grimsby ..	642	Barnes, W. R., Plaistow ..	619
Bunker, C. J. G., Twickenham	638	Pond, G. P., London ...	619

Mr. A. J. Barnes, Dublin, received 240 votes.

In the Manufacturers' Section there was no contest. Sixteen firms were nominated, but six of them, including Messrs. Gosnell who were members of the old Council, intimated that they could not serve. The following were therefore declared duly elected:

Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., Bethnal Green, E.
Beetham & Son, Cheltenham.
Grossmith, J., Son & Co., Newgate Street, E.C.
Kutnow, S., & Co., Ltd., 41 Farringdon Road, E.C.
Lambert, W., & Co., 258 Euston Road, N.W.
Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., Thorncliffe, Sheffield.
Powell, Thos., Ltd., 1 Albion Place, Blackfriars Bridge, S.E.
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., 10 Stonecutter Street, E.C.
Sanitas Co., Ltd., Locksley Street, Limehouse, E.
Umney, John (Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd.), 48 Southwark Street, S.E.

The Wholesalers' Section remains unchanged.

Blyth Chemist Fined.

Before the Blyth Magistrates on December 15, Joseph J. Nelson, chemist and druggist, Cowpen Quay, was fined 10s., and costs, for selling intoxicating liquor by retail without a licence. At the same time he was fined 10s., and costs, for having had in his possession dispensing-scales which were 5 grains against the purchaser. Defendant had had a fire on his premises recently, and he blamed that as having caused the scales to go wrong.

Another Soap-combine Case.

At Liverpool Assizes on December 14 and 15, before Lord Coleridge and a special jury, the case of Lever Bros., Ltd. v. Baines & Co., Ltd., was heard and disposed of. This was an action against the proprietors of the "Leeds

Mercury" for a libel published therein in October 1906. Sir Edward Carson was the leading counsel for the plaintiffs and Mr. Rufus Isaacs for the defendants. Mr. W. H. Lever, M.P., was the only witness, and in the course of his evidence he stated that the sales of "Sunlight" and other laundry soaps for the year which ended September 1905 were 61,000 tons, and for the next year 63,000 tons. In the two years following the libels the sales fell to 44,000 tons, besides which there was a loss in the output of glycerin of 2,250 tons, valued at 70,000*l.* Mr. Lever reckoned the plaintiffs' loss to be about 250,000*l.* On Tuesday evening the jury found for the plaintiffs with 500*l.* damages, for which judgment was given, with costs. It is intimated that an appeal will be lodged owing to inadequate damages, but Sir Edward Carson states that no further cases will be taken against the Harmsworth group of papers.

Fires.

On December 10 fire destroyed some premises belonging to Mr. J. H. Toplis, chemist and druggist, at Chesterfield. The damage (which is covered by insurance) is estimated at 500*l.*

A fire broke out in the drug-factory of Dr. Gathergood at Terrington St. John on December 10, and the Wisbech fire-brigade was called to put it out. Two drug-drying kilns and a large quantity of herbs were destroyed. The premises where the chief part of the plant is installed were, fortunately, saved. The damage is covered by insurance.

Contracts.

Elham (Kent) Guardians.—Messrs. Corbyn, Stacey & Co., Ltd., London, for drugs.

St. Faith's (Norwich) Guardians.—Mr. John Cossey, chemist and druggist, 23 St. John's Street, Norwich, for trusses.

Islington Guardians.—Borthwick & Co. are to supply extract of meat, in 1-oz. pots, to the value of 231*l.* Harrods, Ltd., quoted 360*l.*, and Cox & Sons 398*l.*

Longton Cottage Hospital.—Mr. R. Prince, chemist and druggist, Longton, for drugs, and Messrs. Robinson & Sons, Chesterfield, for surgical dressings.

London County Council.—For additional annual supplies at estimated values. Chemicals: W. V. Aldridge & Son, 11*s.*; Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., 4*s.* Chemical apparatus: Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., 32*l.*; Townson & Mercer, 17*l.*

Plymouth Town Council.—The following tenders for three months' supply of linseed were received: Walter & Son, 29*s.* 8*d.* per 208-lb. bag; Hitchens & Co., 29*s.* 3*d.*; Solmon & Son, 26*s.* 6*d.*; and Bridgeman Bros., 26*s.* 6*d.* The last was accepted.

Plymouth Workhouse Infirmary.—Messrs. Balkwill & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, have secured the contract for supplying the whole of the hospital furniture, appliances and instruments, invalid chairs and couches, to the new infirmary, which is to be opened in January 1909.

Drug-stores Wine-licence.

At Rochdale Police Court on December 9, Mr. Frank Whalley, of the Whalley Drug-stores, Ltd., 160 Manchester Road, Castleton, applied for temporary transfer of the off-licence to Robert Whittaker. The Chief Constable objected to the licence on the ground that it was originally granted for medicated wines, but other wines were also sold. The outgoing tenant stated that the licence was not granted for medicinal wines only, but the Magistrates' Clerk said, "All these licences to chemists are granted on those terms," and the Magistrates refused the application. On December 11 the application was renewed, and on Mr. Whittaker giving an undertaking that only medicated wines would be sold after the next annual licensing session a temporary transfer of the licence was granted.

Children's Overdoses.

An inquest was held at the Lambeth Coroner's Court, on December 9, respecting the death of Maurice Bagwell, the two-year-old son of a Kennington carpenter. The mother stated that she took the child to the Belgrave Hospital, Clapham Road, London, S.W., and after she had given him the first dose of medicine prescribed there the infant

had convulsions, and died later in the hospital. Dr. Edith M. Guest, house physician, stated that she prescribed Easton's syrup, of which a 3-oz. bottle was supplied. The dose indicated was half a drachm three times a day. Dr. Bousfield in his evidence said death was due to exhaustion following strychnine-poisoning. A larger dose than prescribed had been given to the deceased, as it was impossible to measure accurately in teaspoons. The jury returned a verdict of death from misadventure.

An adjourned inquiry was held at Portsmouth, on December 14, with reference to the death of the infant son of Mr. W. A. Ussher, Southsea. The child's nurse, in voluntary evidence, stated that she was a trained nurse engaged to nurse the child. On November 27, about 3 A.M., the child was crying and restless, and she gave him an eighth of a grain of morphine, breaking a quarter-grain tablet in half. The mother was in the room but did not know she was giving the drug to the child. She thought the dose was a small one for a child. She judged by the dose she took herself of 1 up to 2 grains. She had no instructions to administer the drug. Medical evidence having been given as to the effects of morphine on children, the jury found death was due to morphine-poisoning, and were of opinion that the nurse should be severely censured.

Cleanliness of Soda-water Supplies.

The report of the City of London medical officer of health contains details of the examination by Dr. Klein of soda-water samples from manufacturers who have not as yet complied with the regulations. The results are tabulated below:

No. of Sample	Bacteria per c.c.	Moulds per c.c.	B. Coli per 10 c.c.	Pollution
41	5	31	None	Probably with faecal dust
42	Uneountable	—	—	Unelean
43	4	—	—	Clean
44	163	—	—	Doubtful
45	10	—	—	Clean
46	Uneountable	—	Over 120	Unelean
47	157	8	Present	Unelean
48	Uneountable	—	—	Unelean
49	700	—	—	Unelean
50	Uneountable	—	—	Unelean

Sample 43 was contained in a bottle with glass ball-stopper. The use of bottles closed by glass balls is stated to be objectionable owing to the impossibility of removing dust from the groove between the ball and the bottle-neck. The makers of the unsound soda-water are to be cautioned.

Rat-virus.

The continued investigation of Dr. Klein (*C. & D.*, December 5, p. 848) is contained in the latest report of the Medical Officer of Health for the City of London (Dr. Collingridge). Liquid Ratin was the subject of examination, and the results are claimed to show that it contains microbes of the para-typhoid group, fatal to mice and distinctly pathogenic to guinea-pigs.

Honey.

According to Mr. W. Richards, the Hon. Secretary of the Glamorgan Bee-keepers' Association, the grant of 75*l.* received from the County Council has been returned many times over. Last year's honey-crop in Glamorgan is stated to be worth 2,500*l.*, and if to this be added the value of the wax and that of the fruit produced directly as a result of the bees' operation, Mr. Richards calculates that the total cannot be below 7,500*l.* The grant was expended in providing the services of a scientific apiarist to show bee-keepers how to get the best yields from their bees. The grant has now been increased to 100*l.*

PETROLEUM SPIRIT.—The Home Secretary informed Captain Faber in the House of Commons on Wednesday that under Section 6 of the Petroleum Act, 1871, all petroleum spirit sold or exposed for sale must be marked "Highly inflammable," under a penalty of not more than 5*l.* and forfeiture of the spirit. He added that he is about to appoint a Departmental Committee to inquire into the sufficiency of the existing regulations relating to the storage, use, and conveyance of petroleum spirit, and to report what further precautions are desirable.

Irish News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Items.

At the Dublin Winter Show, held at Ballsbridge on December 9 and 10, the Potash Syndicate Co. were exhibiting potash salts, kainit, sulphate and chloride of potash.

Mr. George Brown, pharmaceutical chemist, 139 St. Stephen's Green W., Dublin, has a fine window-display of perfumery suitable for Christmas and New Year presents.

An appreciation of Messrs. J. Leonard & Co., chemists, Dublin (of which Alderman Dr. McWalter, B.L., is the proprietor), appeared in a recent issue of the Dublin "Evening Telegraph."

The "Dublin Gazette" announces the voluntary winding-up of the firm of Messrs. Hunt & Co., Ltd., wholesale chemists and druggists, Bride Street, Dublin. A meeting will be held this week.

Personal.

Sir Wm. Whitla, L.P.S.I., Belfast, has been appointed a member of a committee to inquire what buildings are necessary for the extension of the new Queen's University of Belfast.

Post-office Prosecution.

John Mellinger, who was charged with sending indecent circulars through the post from London to Dublin on December 10, at his trial before the Dublin Commission gave an undertaking not to repeat the offence, and was allowed out on his own recognisances (see *C. & D.*, December 12, p. 884).

Contracts.

The Royal City of Dublin Hospital are inviting tenders for a year's supply of drugs (discount off Evans's monthly list) and surgical dressings.

Mr. Roden Johnston, pharmaceutical chemist, Downpatrick, has again tendered successfully for the supply of medicines, surgical dressings, etc., to Down County Infirmary.

At the meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Dublin, on December 10, the contract for the supply of medicines, drugs, etc., to the institution was given to Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Ltd., of Dublin, while Messrs. Fannin & Co., Ltd., Dublin, obtained the contract for the supply of surgical dressings.

The Kelp Industry.

The question of the development of the kelp-industry on the coast of Clare was referred to at the sitting of the Irish Railways Commission in London on December 10. Mr. W. Barrington, Limerick, said the development of the railway traffic in kelp was not what had been expected, because the price offered for the kelp to the collectors was so small that it did not pay to burn the seaweed. The price per ton had been as high as 8*l.* but it is now bought on analysis, and the producers are usually paid the lowest price. It is bought for a kelp-consumer in Scotland. Witness had heard that the price had gone down owing to competition with Japanese kelp.

Scotch News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Aberdeen and the North.

Mr. George Milne, chemist, Turriff, has been appointed to supply disinfectants, etc., to the Turriff School Board.

Mr. W. Robertson, chemist, was an unsuccessful candidate for a seat on the Buckie Town Council. He just missed being elected by about two dozen votes.

At the Aberdeen Sheriff Court on December 15, Joseph Hardy and John Christie were charged with breaking into the shop of Mr. D. S. Rattray, pharmaceutical chemist, 11 Desswood Place, on November 24, with intent to steal.

Both pleaded guilty. Christie, who had been previously convicted, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and Hardy to three months' imprisonment.

A cab horse attempted to enter the pharmacy of Messrs. Davidson & Kay, chemists, Union Street, last week. It had become restive, and, pushing open the door, proceeded inside the shop as far as the cab would permit. With some difficulty it was backed out of this position, and, after colliding with a milk cart, it dashed its head through one of the windows of the Union Bank opposite.

At Nairn Sheriff Court, on December 8, proof was heard in an action by Mr. W. Dallas, chemist, Nairn, as sole executor on the estate of the late Mr. Fraser, retired hotel-keeper, Nairn, against Mr. John Gordon, solicitor, Nairn, for recovery of all titles, writs, and other documents in his hands belonging to the deceased Mr. Fraser, while acting as agent for the executry. Evidence having been led at considerable length by Mr. Dallas and others, the Sheriff took the case to *avizandum*.

Dundee.

The Dundee Royal Infirmary is to open a dispensary in Lochie.

The window of Messrs. Davidson & Gray, Nethergate, has recently been entirely devoted to bile beans—Charles Forde's.

Messrs. Cummings Bros., Reform Street, had a fair amount of damage done to their counter of specialties last week with blood which spurted from a first-aid case.

We learn that the late Dr. A. M. Robertson was not the last surviving member of the Glasgow Chemists' Association. Mr. Charles Kerr, Ph.C., Dundee, was at the time of its foundation an apprentice with the Glasgow Apothecaries Co., in Sauchiehall Street, and attended many of the meetings, concerts and balls then and while he was an assistant elsewhere in the city. He was seven years in Glasgow Pharmacy, then eight years with Messrs. Duncan, Flockhart & Co., Edinburgh, after which he started business at 56 Nethergate, Dundee.

Edinburgh.

A public meeting was held on Tuesday evening, December 15, in the Music Hall, George Street, under the auspices of the Edinburgh and Leith Traders' Defence Association, for the purpose of discussing individual and co-operative trading. Mr. J. A. Forret was one of the speakers, and Messrs. W. S. Glass and A. Duncan were on the platform. The large audience, about 1,500 were present, included several other local chemists.

Mr. H. M. Spoor, chemist and druggist, has graduated as Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of Edinburgh University. During his scholastic career he has gained three medals and eleven first-class honours certificates, while on the social side he has occupied three presidencies and the secretaryship of the Students' Council and of the University Union. At the New Year Dr. Spoor enters into partnership with Dr. L. Durno, at Stoke Newington.

Glasgow and the West.

Christmas and New Year goods bulk largely in the chemists' windows at present.

The Wallgray Manufacturing Co.'s drug-store at 59 Cambridge Street, has been closed.

Last week fire broke out in the basement-floor of Boots, Ltd., Sauchiehall Street, but no serious damage was done.

Mr. Mungo Wallace, chemist and druggist, has joined the representative staff of Messrs. Robson, West Nile Street, Glasgow.

At the Airdrie Photographic Exhibition last week Mr. R. Dunlop, chemist, lectured on "With Cycle and Camera in the South of Scotland."

The Council of St. Andrews Ambulance Association has awarded its certificate of honour for bravery to Mr. James Donaldson, porter with Messrs. Frazer & Green, Ltd., Charing Cross.

Messrs. Rac Bros., opticians, St. Vincent Street, last week announced on their windows, "Eyegist tested and spectacles supplied free of charge." Large crowds gathered round the shop and took advantage of the offer.

Homœopathic Dispensary for Glasgow.

It has been proposed in various quarters that a homœopathic dispensary for out-door patients should be re-established in Glasgow. There are now several homœopathic physicians in the city, and they have all expressed their willingness to co-operate in such an effort, and to give their services gratuitously. A public meeting, at which Mr. Paul Rottenburg, LL.D., presided, was held in the Merchants' Hall on December 16, when the movement was formally inaugurated. Dr. Gibson Millar stated that in the homœopathic dispensary which existed in Glasgow about a dozen years ago some 6,000 prescriptions were distributed annually. There were now, he believed, five or six homœopathic doctors in and around Glasgow, and a number of young men who were willing to go on with the work. There were many young doctors who would be glad to avail themselves at the dispensary of the opportunity to learn homœopathy and see current theories put into practice.

French News.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

THE CORPORATIVE ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS of the French Reserve and Territorial Army held their annual meeting at the Military Club (the handsome corner building opposite the Paris Opera) on December 12, and afterwards dined together in the same place.

IN FAVOUR OF CONTROL.—M. Cazeneuve, President of the "Pharmaceutical Group" in the French Parliament, made an eloquent speech in the Chamber of Deputies recently in favour of the acceptance and equipment of the pharmaceutical laboratories of the French Army (roughly speaking one of these exists at each military hospital, and there is a hospital, as a rule, to each Army Corps) as official analytical laboratories under the new Adulteration Act. At present food, etc., supplied to the Army is analysed by military pharmacists in these establishments, but they cannot officially report on their results. M. Cazeneuve urged that steps should be taken to remove this anomaly.

COLOUR-NEGATIVES.—Professor Lippmann, who has been awarded the Nobel Prize for physics (*C. & D.*, December 5, p. 850), stated to a representative of the "*Matin*" that he has tried to overcome the sole defect of his colour-photography method—that of not producing more than one "proof" of the object photographed. Professor Lippmann said:

I have tried to obtain a negative of a colour photograph in order to get reproductions of the image. My experiments, abandoned on account of my ill-health, have so far succeeded in that I have obtained a negative of a spectrum. Certainly that is not much, but it is enough to show that the object—reproductions on paper—is not impossible of attainment.

THE SACCHARIN CONFERENCE.—Dr. Bordas has recently returned to Paris from the International Saccharin Conference held a fortnight ago at Brussels. He explained in a short interview last week that this Conference was largely a deferred meeting of one of the Sections of the International Pure Food Congress held some weeks ago at Geneva. The result of the Brussels reunion is that an international committee has been named to study the subject of saccharin, and to bring forward a proposal for legislation regarding it at the Pure Food Congress to be held next year. A proposal was made and adopted to the effect that saccharin should be prohibited in drink and food except for medicinal purposes.

"KEEPING THE DOGS OFF."—A case of interest to pharmacists and, in fact, to all shopkeepers, was heard a few days ago at one of the Paris Police Courts. The defendant was a pharmacist of the Quai Saint Gervais, who had been in the habit of putting carbolic acid and vitriol on the lower part of his shop front in order to keep the dogs off. One day, however, a little girl of six years of age, who was approaching the pharmacy, stumbled and fell into a small pool of vitriol that had formed on the pavement. The child was slightly burnt on the elbow, and her father summoned the pharmacist and with him his concierge, who had been responsible for spilling the vitriol on the pavement. The

result was that the two defendants were fined 16f. (say 13s.), as well as 25f. (1*l.*) damages.

CO-OPERATIVE PHARMACY.—The Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation has confirmed the judgment of the lower Courts, and declared that the opening and organisation of a pharmacy by the "Revendication" Benefit Society at Puteaux is legal. The facts of this case—now definitely lost by the Paris Pharmacists' Society—have already been reported in the *C. & D.* The immediate result of the decision will probably be the opening of pharmacies by other benefit societies. It may be noted that there is a strong tendency at the present moment on the part of the "powers that be" in France to encourage co-operation in every way, and it is probable that other classes or professions whose interests are opposed to this form of trading will suffer in their turn later on.

A CENTENARY.—It is now a hundred years since, at the outbreak of what we know now as the "Peninsular War," Napoleon I. issued an edict requiring all Spaniards to quit Paris. When this decree was published the famous Vauquelin received the visit of a young Spanish student. He had only arrived in Paris the previous July, with a travelling scholarship of 60*l.* a year granted specially by the Madrid University on the condition of study in the French capital, and he begged the eminent Director of the Paris School of Pharmacy to obtain the Imperial consent to continue his course. Vauquelin received him kindly, and obtained the necessary favour. This student was the famous Orfila. He was naturalised a Frenchman in 1819, and died in 1853. Personal recollections of his lectures by the late Mr. Ince, of London, were published in the *C. & D.* not long since.

Canadian News.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

THE SALE OF COCAINE.—A delegation representing the Pharmaceutical Association of the Province of Quebec called upon Sir Lomer Gouin and his colleagues at the Government offices in Montreal and asked that stricter measures be adopted to prevent the sale of cocaine and opium within the limits of the city and throughout the province generally. The Premier agreed with the views set forth by the delegation, and promised earnest consideration of any measure suggested for legislative reform. He asked that the members of the Association should draw up a memorial setting forth their views of the situation.

INTERNATIONAL OPIUM COMMISSION.—In connection with the announcement in the *C. & D.*, November 14, that Mr. Mackenzie King had been appointed on the Opium Commission, it is now stated that at the request of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, he has reconsidered his decision to decline the appointment as Imperial Commissioner to the International Anti-opium Conference at Shanghai next January, and has accepted the mission. He was to sail from Vancouver on December 2, and will be absent until the end of February. Mr. King had hesitated about accepting the position because he felt that his constituents would by this have been deprived of a representative in Parliament.

THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL met in Toronto recently, and at its closing session approved of interprovincial registration with all the colleges in the various provinces having a standard of education equivalent to that of the Ontario Medical Council. It was decided also to forward to all high schools and colleges copies of the regulations governing examinations for matriculation as required by the Council. In revising some of the clauses in the regulations regarding examinations, a heated discussion arose as to whether professors of the University of Toronto should be allowed to serve as examiners. The clause was finally amended to read "No teacher shall be eligible for appointment as examiner on the subject which he teaches, but this restriction shall not apply to anatomy and physiology."

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES ACT.—It has been decided that this Act shall come into force on April 1, 1909. After that date any preparation which contains chloral, aconite, ergot, strychnine, or any other of the deadly drugs will have to bear a printed statement on the outside of each package that there is a deadly drug within the preparation, and the

name of the drug. It was the intention of the Department to have the Act made effective as soon as possible, but it has been found that the application of the law will take some time. This is due to the fact that there are nearly three thousand druggists in Canada, and every one of them makes and sells one or more preparations in the form of cough-medicines and soothing-syrups, the formulæ for which will have to be submitted to the Government analysts before their sale can be authorised. This work necessarily requires a deal of time. It is understood that the policy of the Department of Inland Revenue will be to interpret the law strictly, and that the only proprietary preparations which will be authorised will be those which contain the scheduled drugs in such small quantities as to be harmless. Many druggists have already submitted statements of the various preparations made by them, and the officials are working upon them. It is asserted in some quarters that the new law will work detrimentally to business interests, but a prominent manufacturer declares that as far as legitimate business is concerned there is no criticism to be made of the Act, and that manufacturers will not be affected in the slightest degree.

India and the East.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

DR. DOMINADOR GOMEZ has been sentenced to pay a fine of 2,000 pesos, and costs, with imprisonment in case of insolvency, at Manila, for having in his possession a large quantity of morphine. One of his confederates, Estanislao Carballo, was sentenced to pay a fine of 500 pesos on the same charge.

OPIUM REVENUE.—The Indian opium revenue continues to increase. That for September, for which returns are published, was twenty-eight lakhs more than the estimate, bringing the total since the beginning of the official year to eighty-one lakhs more than was anticipated in the last Budget statement.

THREATENED OPIUM-MONOPOLY.—A Reuter's telegram from Hong-Kong, dated December 4, states that the attempt to revive provincial monopolist regulations with regard to opium has been renewed in the prefectural districts outside Canton, resulting in the practical stoppage of British exports to Swatow. This tends to destroy confidence, and to excite distrust regarding the future. The Hong-Kong merchants are making representations to H.M. Consul-General at Canton.

CEYLON OPIUM ORDINANCE.—The sub-committee of the Ceylon Legislative Council, having carefully revised the Draft Ordinance, make the following recommendations, among others:

- (a) Provision has been made for allowing opium to be dispensed as a medicine, on the prescription of registered medical practitioners, by dispensers specially authorised for the purpose by the Principal Civil Medical Officer.
- (b) Registered medical practitioners are allowed to dispense opium as a medicine, in the course of their practice, in quantities not exceeding the amount to be taken during forty-eight hours.
- (c) Penalties are provided for registered medical practitioners who dispense opium without regard to these restrictions.
- (d) More stringent penalties have been provided for the illegal importation, sale, and possession of opium.
- (e) The possession of hypodermic syringes is allowed on the certificate of a registered medical practitioner.
- (f) The schedule of medicinal preparations has been amended so as to include chlorodyne and similar preparations.

The sub-committee have carefully considered the suggestion that provision should be made to enable practitioners of native medicine to dispense opium, but they have been unable to devise any method of giving effect to this suggestion which will not at the same time provide a ready means for evading the stringency of the Bill. Further discussion on this Ordinance took place in the Legislative Council on November 18, when it was decided that the debate be postponed until February, so as to give the public an opportunity of discussing it.

Colonial and Foreign News.

RUSSIAN ERGOT.—The Russian trade in ergot is mostly in the hands of German firms. During the current year it has been found in such quantities in the ryefields in the Moscow government that the authorities have warned the peasants of the danger to health caused by infection of the grain with ergot, but pointing out at the same time that there is a good demand for ergot as an article of commerce. The Government has decided as an experiment to buy certain quantities at the price of 25 kopeks per lb., with a view to making a profit of 4 kopeks per lb.

MINERAL WATERS FOR BRAZIL.—Writing in reference to certain articles for which there is a demand in Brazil, the British Consul at Bahia points out that mineral-water manufacturers ought to find a considerable scope for the disposal of their products, the water-supply being so bad that persons who can afford to do so habitually drink imported waters. Apollinaris and other waters find an extensive market in spite of the very high prices charged, and the Consul believes that table-waters manufactured in the United Kingdom should find favour in that market. He believes that there would be a large demand also for lemonade, ginger-beer, etc., if it were once made known that supplies could be obtained.

THE NOBEL PRIZES were presented at Stockholm, on December 10, by the King of Sweden, each prize consisting of a medal, a diploma, and a cheque for 7,680/. Professor Ernest Rutherford, F.R.S., of Manchester, received the chemistry prize. He is the youngest chemist who has had the honour, having been born at Nelson, New Zealand, on August 30, 1871. He was educated there, then at Canterbury College, Christchurch, where he graduated B.A. in 1892, M.A. a year later, and B.Sc. in 1894. Obtaining an 1851 Exhibition scholarship he came to Cambridge, where he studied as a Trinity man in the Cavendish laboratory under Sir Joseph J. Thomson, and took his B.A. as a Research degree and obtained the Countess-Trotter Studentship in 1897. He became Macdonald professor of physics at the McGill University, Montreal, in 1898, left there in 1907 for the Manchester University, at which he is Langworthy professor. He was one of the earliest and most successful workers on radium and radioactivity.



PROF. E. RUTHERFORD.

South African News.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

Cape Colony.

THEFT.—A coloured man named Louis Garrett was fined 5/., or fourteen days' hard labour, for stealing a quantity of goods from his employers, Messrs. Petersen, Ltd., Cape Town. The articles were numerous, and covered a table in the court, all being quite new and unsoiled.

THE STAMPING CONTROVERSY is still proceeding. The Treasury officials are somewhat concerned at the omission of a penalty clause. It is, however, understood that in the event of any failure to comply with the law, action will be taken against the offenders through the civil courts. The heavy costs certain to be incurred will, it is thought, have the same deterrent effect as a fine. Doubt is expressed as to whether this method of civil process will raise the anticipated revenue from patent-medicine taxation.

A LONG WALKING-TOUR.—Mr. G. T. Branch, chemist and druggist (manager of the Umтали branch of Messrs. Strachan & Co., Salisbury), arrived in Cape Town a month ago en route for England. Mr. Branch and a companion covered about 1,250 miles on foot, through country where the natives had not previously seen a white man, and frequently off the beaten track. Eight natives were required as carriers and guides from Umтали to Petersburg (Transvaal). From the latter town the

travellers proceeded by rail to Hutchinson, in Cape Colony, owing to Mr. Branch having a slight attack of fever, and the rainy season being on, but the remainder of the distance was covered on foot. Both travellers look very fit after their long journey.

MEDICINE-STAMPS.—In connection with the new Stamp Act the chemists of Kimberley are making representations through their local M.P.s to the effect that the present conditions are operating very unfairly, some chemists stamping, while others do not. They request their representatives to urge upon the Government either to enforce or to repeal the Act.—At the Magistrate's Court, King William's Town, on November 25, Laba Israelith was charged with selling a patent or proprietary medicine without affixing a stamp as required under the Stamp Act of 1903. The article in question was a bottle of Chesebrough's vaseline, and after a lengthy hearing the defendant was acquitted, the Magistrate (Mr. J. C. Magennis) holding that stamp-duty is not recoverable by criminal process, as the Act does not provide for a penalty, and the Government can only recover stamp-duty by civil process.

Cape Colony Pharmacy Board.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Board was held in the Board Room, Cape Town, on Thursday, November 12. Mr. A. Walsh presided, and there were also present Messrs. J. A. Mathew, Geo. Darroll, J. McJannet, W. K. Mager, J. Parry, Dr. Murray, and the Secretary. The report of the Executive Committee, covering the period since the last general meeting, was read and adopted. Several cases of contravention of the Medical and Pharmacy Act were considered, and were referred for investigation. A report to the effect that poisons and preparations containing poison were being largely sold by storekeepers in the country districts was considered, and it was decided to ask the informant to quote a specific case in order that the necessary steps may be taken to prevent further breaches of the law, the Board being unable to take action upon such a general charge. The sub-committee appointed to meet the Colonial Medical Council in connection with the proposed alterations and additions to the new British Pharmacopœia reported that two meetings had been held, and that as soon as the deliberations were completed a report would be minuted to the Government and a copy transmitted for the information of the Board. Applications for registration as chemists and druggists from Messrs. W. L. Archer, Port Elizabeth, and W. J. Smith, Kimberley, were approved. The usual examination was held in connection with this meeting, five candidates presenting themselves. Of these only one was successful—viz., Mr. L. Wallace (Rondebosch). The examiners expressed regret that so many candidates come up for examination without any apparent preparation.

Australasian News.

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug-trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," copies of which can be obtained at 6d. each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

New South Wales.

DISPENSING-ERROR.—An inquest was held at Sydney, on October 7, on the body of an infant who died as the result of a dispensing-error on the part of a lady doctor. A mixture was prescribed for the child containing a few drops of tinct. nuc. vom. In error, ext. nuc. vom. liq. was used, and the child died in about an hour. The dispenser has been committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter.

L.D.S.—The Dental Board of New South Wales has had a severe check. Among regulations recently submitted to the Governor-in-Council was one—as already mentioned—giving those who had been registered by the Board's examination the title of Licentiate in Dental Surgery and the right to add the letters L.D.S. to their name. The Premier announced in Parliament on October 1, in answer to a question, that as a courtesy he had informed the Board that this regulation was *ultra vires*, and if the Board did not recognise the courtesy, and still maintained their position, the Government would use the powers which it had under the law (see *C. & D.*, November 7, p. 709).

New Zealand.

QUACKERY PREVENTION ACT.—From an interview with Dr. Mason, the assurance has been obtained that the Chief

Officer of Health has no intention of interfering with ordinary reputable proprietary medicines, nor will he interfere with a moderately exaggerated statement of the properties of a medicine. But if he finds any medicine advertised as a *cure* for consumption, or Bright's disease, or cancer, or similar diseases, he will use the powers conferred upon him by the Act. He does not consider that it is the duty of the Health Department to interfere in the matter of charges made for ordinary proprietary medicines, but he intends to carry on a vigorous campaign against all quacks of the nefarious personal kind.

Queensland.

AN OPTICAL SOCIETY FOR QUEENSLAND has been talked of for some time, and several of the Brisbane opticians having joined together, an Institute of Ophthalmic Opticians has been formed, and rules are being drafted and matters generally got into order. It is proposed to admit anyone who has any claim to registration on payment of a fee of 10s. 6d. if they come in at once, and then to institute an examination.

South Australia.

EARLY-CLOSING BILL.—This Bill has caused considerable excitement among chemists in its passage through the Assembly. Condensed, the provisions as applying to chemists are:

Exempted goods are declared by regulation, and such regulation is a part of the Act.

Officers have power to inspect any shops at any time, and ask questions. But no person need inculpate himself.

Every shop must be registered within the time specified. A compulsory half-holiday for each assistant from one o'clock until the next morning on one day in the week except Sunday.

No person under sixteen years of age must work more than fifty-two hours a week.

No person must make or use a false declaration or entry. The onus of proof is on the defendant.

The actual offender only is liable.

In this form the Bill passed the second reading, but a deputation from the Pharmaceutical Society has since had an interview with the Premier in regard to hours of closing and exempted goods.

Victoria.

THE AUSTRALASIAN MEDICAL CONGRESS was held during October in Melbourne. The proceedings of interest to pharmacists are fully reported in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia" for November.

FOOD-STANDARDS.—A meeting of the Food Standards Committee under the Pure Food Act was held at Melbourne on September 21, under the chairmanship of Dr. Norris. The committee decided to disallow the use of saccharin in sauces, and to permit the use of a small quantity of preservative in fruit-juices, such as lemon-squash, provided the fact is stated on the label. The question of raising the standard of cream of tartar was deferred, and the standardising of eucalyptus oil was referred to Dr. Green and Mr. A. R. Bailey. It was decided to postpone the fixing of a standard for salad oil (other than olive oil), with a view to framing a regulation as to the declaration on the label of the packages.

American Notes.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

STREET QUACKS.—The Chicago Retail Druggists' Association are seeking to secure the passage of an ordinance that has been drafted with a view to putting down street medicine vendors.

CONFLICTING IMPORT LAWS.—After considerable discussion of the provisions of the Act of 1848, its relation to the Pure Food and Drugs Act, and the question as to whether or not it was necessary in the interest of purer drugs to repeal the former, a draft of an Act covering the importation of drugs to the United States was presented by Mr. George M. Beringer, of Camden, N.J., at the November pharmaceutical meeting at the Philadelphia

College of Pharmacy. The meeting, says the "American Druggist," was a most representative one. This proposed law repeals the Act of 1848 and allows manufacturers to bring in under bond, for manufacturing purposes, drugs and raw materials that are admitted to be under standard strength. It stipulates that the United States Pharmacopœia or National Formulary shall be the standards of purity, and defines the term "drug," as well as the privileges of the importers and their liabilities. As it was indicated in the course of the discussion that in some cases inspectors and examiners were not professional men, stress was laid upon the necessity of such persons possessing satisfactory knowledge of materia medica, chemistry, and the commerce of drugs. Mr. M. N. Kline, chairman of the Legislation Committee of the N.W.D.A., said Mr. Beringer's views coincided with his own. Dr. Lyman F. Kebler, of the Bureau of Chemistry in Washington, held that such a Bill was unnecessary.

ADMITTING IMPORTED DRUGS.—Another step toward securing a more expeditious handling of imported drugs at New York and other ports has been taken by the administrative authorities, says the "American Druggist." This change consists in an agreement that henceforward, when questions arise in connection with matters already practically determined by precedents, they shall be left to the collector of the port and the head of the local food laboratory for settlement. This will result, it is expected, in placing much of the responsibility for passing consignments of drugs upon the New York officials. Heretofore it has been necessary to send the papers in each and every case to Washington, where they passed first through the hands of the Board of Food and Drug Inspection and then through those of the officers of the Customs division of the Treasury Department. By settling questions locally wherever possible, much of this friction and delay will be avoided. Officers of the Department of Agriculture have been directed to make up lists of all precedents covering the importation of drugs, and these will be published in "Treasury Decisions" as a letter of instructions to the local officials concerned. This will probably be done during the current or the coming week. Secretary Wilson has, however, practically rejected the more important proposal emanating from the Treasury Department that all importations shall be released immediately after sampling, and allowed to go into consumption pending the establishment of actual misbranding or adulteration in them. Mr. Wilson contends that this would result in the nullification of several sections of the Food and Drugs Act, and that, therefore, he would not be justified in approving its adoption as a substitute for the present methods. He proposes that the subject be referred to the Attorney-General for an opinion as to its legality, and this will shortly be done. When M. Bonaparte has rendered his opinion, the Agricultural and Treasury Departments will take up the question and endeavour to settle it upon its merits..

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C. & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.) will be esteemed.

145/48. Makers of, or agents for, Winckler's Elixir.

143/1. Manufacturers in Belgium of sulphuric acid.

140/67. Where can a veterinary-powder called Phosphaline Valonta be obtained?

THE exports of glycerin from Marseilles in 1907 amounted to 7,682 tons, valued at about six million francs; the United States received 6,078 tons, England 388 tons, and Holland 253 tons.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.—A provincial chemist sends his subscription for the *C. & D.* during the ensuing year, and adds: "Would that every expenditure of this amount yielded results in proportion! It is not an *expense*, but an *investment*."

Proprietary Medicines for Australia.

THE following is the text of a Bill introduced into the Australian House of Representatives and read a first time on November 5:

A Bill for an Act to amend the Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act, 1905.

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows:

Short Title and Citation.—1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act, 1908.

(2) The Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act, 1905, is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

(3) The Principal Act, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act, 1905-1908.

Imported Goods, to which Misleading Labels, Wrappers, or Advertisements are Applied.—2.—After section ten of the Principal Act the following section is inserted:

"10A.—(1.) If with respect to any goods, being—

(a) medicines or medicinal preparations for internal or external use, or

(b) articles described as or intended for food or drink for infants or invalids,

it appears to the Comptroller-General after due investigation that any label, wrapper, advertisement, or printed matter applied to or accompanying the goods contains statements, in regard to the effects or efficacy of the goods, which are untrue or misleading, or reliance upon which is likely to lead to harmful consequences to the users of the goods, the Comptroller-General may in writing require the owner of the goods, before their delivery from the control of the Customs, to remove or alter the labels, wrappers, or advertisements in such way or to such extent as he directs.

(2.) Thereupon the Collector may detain the goods until the requirements of the Comptroller-General have been complied with or until the goods are entered for export.

(3.) If the owner of the goods does not, within one month after any such requirements have been made, either comply with the requirements or enter the goods for export, the goods shall be deemed to have been imported in contravention of this Act, and may by direction of the Minister be seized as forfeited to the King."

Trade Secrets in the Case of Medicines and Infants' and Invalids' Food.—3.—Section sixteen of the Principal Act is repealed, and the following section inserted in lieu thereof:

"16.—(1.) With respect to any goods being medicines or medicinal preparations for internal or external use, or articles intended for food for infants or invalids, if the Governor-General is satisfied—

(a) that any trade description or part of a trade description required by the regulations under section seven or eleven of this Act would involve the disclosure of trade secrets of manufacture or preparation; and

(b) that such disclosure is not necessary for the protection of the health or welfare of the public,

he may by order allow the trade description with respect to those goods to be modified in such manner as he directs. Trade Secrets in other Cases.—(2.) With respect to goods other than those mentioned in the preceding sub-section, the regulations under sections seven and eleven of this Act shall not prescribe a trade description which discloses trade secrets of manufacture or preparation, unless in the opinion of the Governor-General the disclosure is necessary for the protection of the health or welfare of the public.

(3.) With respect to any goods being medicines or medicinal preparations the regulations may prescribe a trade description stating the ailments and diseases which they are intended to alleviate or cure."

The Ministry which introduced this Bill was defeated on November 10, and its fate since has not been determined, but our advices from Melbourne indicate that it will be proceeded with. Compared with the Bill of 1907, which was withdrawn, the principal omissions seem to be the provision of any right of appeal from the decision of the Comptroller-General, which is not provided in the Principal Act, although it seems to be in the Customs Act of 1901, with which the Principal Act is incorporated; and, secondly, no date is mentioned for the Act to come into force. In previous cases three months' notice has been given, and this will probably be observed. The Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act of 1905, of which this Bill is an amendment, is incorporated and read as one with the Customs Act of 1901.

ONE OF MANY.—"Am delighted with the *Diary* to hand this morning. It supersedes all previous editions that I have seen." So wrote a subscriber on December 16, 1908.

THE amount of quinine used in Ceylon during the year 1907, says Sir Allan Perry, Principal Civil Medical Officer and Inspector-General of Hospitals, Ceylon, was 76,206 oz., the cost of which was 50,225 rupees.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Average Weekly Earnings.—The Court of Appeal on December 11, in the case of *Anslow v. Cannock Chase Colliery Co., Ltd.*, decided, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, that the average weekly earnings of a collier who worked thirty-three weeks of the fifty-two in a year were to be reckoned by dividing the total earnings by thirty-three.

"Hoar Frost."—At the Southwark County Court, on December 17, Messrs. Hearon, Squire & Francis, Ltd., sued Dr. E. Paget, Oxford Street, for 1*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*, payment for 10 lb. of "hoar frost," a complexion cream. Judge Willis, K.C., heard the case. Dr. Paget admitted having the "hoar frost," which, he said, he wanted as a face-cream for ladies, but it proved a veritable frost, and turned to chalk, or to a substance like it. Mr. Harrell (plaintiff's representative) said his firm had never had any complaints about it. The case was adjourned.

Hair-wash as Personal Luggage.—The Judge at the Marylebone County Court had to decide, on Monday, December 14, the question as to whether medicine and hair-wash are personal luggage. The case was that of *Davis v. The Great Western Railway Co.* Plaintiff had sent his travelling bag containing clothes and the bottles from Taplow to Highgate as luggage in advance, paying 6*d.* On the journey the bottles were smashed and the contents distributed over the clothes. Plaintiff sued for damages. For the company it was contended that bottles of hair-wash could not be regarded as personal luggage, and anything that required more than ordinary care could not be personal luggage, but came into a category for which a special rate was charged. No such rate had been paid in this case. His Honour held that the bottles of hair-wash and medicine were articles of personal luggage, and they were so packed in the bag that it would require considerable rough treatment to reduce them to the condition in which they were found to be on reaching Highgate. He gave judgment for the plaintiff for 5*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, and costs.

High Court Cases.

SACCHARIN PATENTS.

In the Chancery Division on Tuesday, Mr. Justice Neville acceded to a motion for judgment in the case of the *Saccharin Corporation v. Fineburg*. Mr. Colefax made the application on behalf of the plaintiffs. The proceedings were formal.

CROWN TRADE-MARKS.

In the Chancery Division on December 11, Mr. Justice Warrington had before him a motion dealing with the trade-marks referring to a crown. The application was by the Crown Chemical-works for the rectification of the register of trade-marks by striking out from it three trade-marks registered in the name of Martha Johnson.—His Lordship held that the marks must come off the register, and he ordered Mrs. Johnson to pay the costs.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

POISONS AND TITLE.

BEFORE Judge Scully, at the Chichester County Court on December 9, Mrs. R. J. Johnson, High Street, Selsey, was summoned by the Pharmaceutical Society (1) for keeping open shop for the sale of poisons, and (2) for taking, using, and exhibiting the title of chemist. Mr. P. C. Burley, of Petersfield, appeared for the Society, and Mr. Boycott for the defendant.

Mr. Burley stated that Mrs. Johnson carried on a general stores, and over the shop was a fascia bearing the name, "R. J. Johnson & Sons, photographie and dispensing chemists." On September 14 a bottle of paregoric was purchased. Notice was given to the defendant to admit certain facts, but no reply was received. He understood that Mrs. Johnson was under the impression that because she had a duly registered man who rendered her some assistance, she was not committing an offence. Mr. Westlake, who had been assisting in the business, was on the register, having retired from business at Windsor, but he was not on the premises when the paregoric was purchased.

Mr. Harry Moon, clerk to the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society, produced a register of chemists and druggists, which did not include the name of the defendant.

Mr. Waldoek said that on September 14 he went to

Selsey and called at defendant's stores, where he bought threepennyworth of paregoric and some camphorated oil. There was a fascia board over the shop, and on the fanlight was "Roberts, drug stores."

Mr. Thomas Tickle, F.I.C., B.Sc., Exeter, proved that the paregoric contained opium.

Mr. Boycott said Mrs. Johnson did at one time employ a properly qualified chemist in Mr. Roberts, but owing to pecuniary difficulties she afterwards arranged with a gentleman living at Selsey, who had been Mayor of Windsor, to do her dispensing. She had no idea she was infringing the law, and regretted that she had done so, but he submitted it was nothing more than a technical offence.

His Honour said it was a very clear case, and he could not agree that it was merely a technical offence. The mischief this Act was intended to remedy was very serious indeed, for it was a most dangerous thing to allow anyone who was not qualified to sell poisons which were often sold in the form of an elixir, mostly intended for the use of children. He gave judgment for the Society for the amount claimed, 10*l.*, with costs.

There was also an action against Miss Johnson for selling nursery pomade containing veratrine, but Mr. Boycott decided, having regard to his Honour's decision in the first case, not to defend it. Judgment was accordingly given for the Society in this case also for 5*l.*, with costs. Mr. Burley applied for special costs, and his Honour allowed the same on the higher scale, on the ground that the case was one of general public importance.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

OLIVE OIL.

For selling cotton-seed oil as olive oil, George Gurr, Bredgar, was fined 1*l.*, and 9*s.* costs, by the Sittingbourne Bench on December 14.

IODINE PAINT OR TINCTURE OF IODINE.

At Portsmouth Police Court on December 15, before Colonel C. Lanyon Owen and other magistrates, Joseph Smith, chemist and druggist, 10 Cleveland Road, Southsea, was summoned for selling tincture of iodine which the public analyst, Mr. F. W. F. Arnaud, certified to contain 7 per cent. of methyl alcohol and traces of acetone. Evidence of the purchase having been given by Mrs. Bromley, agent for the inspector (who paid 1*s.* 6*d.* for 3 oz.), the analyst and Dr. A. Mearns Fraser, medical officer of health, gave evidence, the former to the effect that the tincture was made with methylated spirit instead of rectified, and the latter that the methylated tincture would be prejudicial to health. The correctness of the analysis was not disputed, but the defendant, giving evidence on his own behalf, said he told the purchaser that he had not the tincture ready, and when he learnt from her that it was for external use he prepared it with methylated spirit and labelled it "Iodine Paint—Poison." Mr. E. Hobbs, who appeared for defendant, submitted that there was no evidence to show that the defendant led the woman to think he was selling her tincture of iodine. The seriousness of the offence would lie, he added, in the fact as to whether or no this so-called tincture might have been taken internally, but this he contended had been amply provided against in the fact that the "paint" was put into a proper poison-bottle, which, besides having a poison-label, had on it in embossed and raised letters the words "Not To Be Taken." Under these circumstances he submitted that no offence had been committed. Had there been no discussion as to "tincture of iodine" and "iodine paint," and had there not been the fact that the bottle into which it was put was distinctly labelled "Iodine Paint," and was protected by a poison-label, and was in fact a poison-bottle, so marked in the fabric, and by the make and shape of it, there might have been an offence, but not when accompanied by all these circumstances. The Bench, after a long consideration of the points privately, decided not to convict, but they cautioned the defendant as to his manner of conducting his business; when a particular article was asked for he should supply it, and not "something that would do as well." In future that would be considered to be "to the prejudice of the purchaser," and dealt with accordingly.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re GEO. H. WAUGH, L.R.C.P., 132 Grosvenor Road, Belfast. Chemist and Druggist and Medical Practitioner (*C. & D.*, November 14, p. 908).—At Belfast Bankruptcy Court on December 14, Mr. Jas. Alexander, representing the assignees, read the report, which showed a balance of 239*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* on hand. A first dividend of 4*s.* in the pound was declared, and he (Mr. Alexander) understood there was a further estate yet to be realised. The usual order was made.

Re SIDNEY F. GOSS, late of 110 New Bond Street, W., Chemist and Druggist and Managing Director of Morny Frères, Ltd.—The affairs of this debtor came before Mr. Registrar Hope at the London Bankruptcy Court on December 10, in relation to the public examination of the debtor, who has filed accounts showing total liabilities 18,180*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.* (unsecured 5,080*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*), and assets consisting of 10,580 shares in Morny Frères, Ltd., and fifty mining shares, the value of which is doubtful. According to the observations of Mr. G. W. Chapman, Official Receiver, and the statements of the debtor, he was employed by various chemists and druggists until 1893, when, with two other persons, he formed a company to carry on the business of chemists and druggists, of which he acted until 1899 as manager and director at a remuneration of 200*l.* a year increasing to 450*l.* a year. He then became manager to a perfumery company at 800*l.* a year until June 1902, and for the next eighteen months was engaged in negotiations, which proved abortive, for the purchase of a business; during this time he lived on his savings and on rents received from letting out as consulting-rooms for doctors parts of a house which he then owned at 67A Harley Street, W. In May 1905, with 2,000*l.* advanced to him by a friend, he started under the style of "Morny Frères," another chemist's and druggist's business at 110 New Bond Street, W., and on June 19, 1905, transferred it for 13,000*l.* in fully-paid shares to a company registered as "Morny Frères, Ltd.," of which he was appointed managing director at 1,200*l.* a year; he has, however, received only about 500*l.* altogether on account of remuneration. In July last a receiver for the debenture-holders took possession of the business, and in August the company went into voluntary liquidation. He attributes his failure to guaranteeing payment of the debts of Morny Frères, Ltd. Upon the application of the Official Receiver the examination was adjourned by reason of the debtor's absence through ill-health.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

CORKERY, T., and HARCOURT, C. H., physicians and surgeons, Pinxton, Alfreton, Derbyshire, under the style of Corkery & Harcourt.

PEARSON, H. B. A., and BOAM, H., physicians, Bolingbroke Grove and Honeywell Road, Wandsworth Common, London, S.W., under the style of Drs. Pearson & Boam.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDERS.

DANIEL, RONALD ANGUS DALRYMPLE, Suffolk, doctor of medicine.

WHITE, RUSSELL STURGIS, Sister's Avenue, Lavender Hill, Battersea, London, S.W., medical practitioner.

ADJUDICATION.

ANDREWS, GEORGE GENGE, Twickenham, Middlesex, chemist.

New Companies and Company News.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907.

ACME BOTTLE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 50,000*l.* Objects: To acquire inventions relating to the production of glass-bottles, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of bottles, etc.

TAYLOR & SON (DUBLIN), LTD.—Capital 5,000*l.* Objects: To acquire the business of Taylor & Son, mineral-water manufacturers, Dublin. The first directors are: E. H. Taylor and H. Taylor. Registered office, Foley Street, Dublin.

COMPANIES INCORPORATED OUTSIDE THE UNITED KINGDOM.—*Denver Chemical Manufacturing Co., U.S.A.* Capital \$300,000. British address: G. C. Nicholls, 41 St. Ann's Road, Bow.—*Iron-Ox Remedy Co., Ltd., Ontario.* Capital \$300,000. British address: A. Lund, 20 Cockspur Street, S.W.

BOTTLERS' OWN BRUSH WORKS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 500*l.* Objects: To take over the business of a bottle-brush manufacturer, formerly carried on by J. Watson at Seaforth, Liverpool. The first directors are: T. Jones and J. H. Maxwell. Registered office, 205 Crosby Road, South Seaforth, Liverpool.

NORTHERN COUNTIES DRUG CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 300*l.* Objects as indicated by the title. The first directors are: J. Moore, 1 Ipswich Street, Rochdale, medical botanist; J. Wilkinson, 9 Vernon Street, Old Trafford, Manchester, chemist's assistant; P. Welsby, 187 Ashfield Road, Rochdale, chemist's assistant.

WEAVER REFINING CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 25,000*l.* Objects: To adopt agreements (a) with J. O. Neill and E. Hindley and (b) with the Anglo-American Cattle Products Co., Ltd., and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, manures, preservatives, drugs, etc. The first directors are J. O. Neill, E. Hindley, and J. E. Grimditch.

KI-KI, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business carried on by G. Wright at 82 Park Road, Liverpool, as the "Ki-Ki Co.," and to carry on the business of patent-medicine and ointment manufacturers, chemists, druggists, etc. The first subscribers are G. Wright, 43 Park Road, Liverpool, patent-medicine manufacturer; E. J. F. Gamer, 93 Park Road, Liverpool, chemist; A. A. W. Jones, 41 North John Street, Liverpool, accountant; and R. W. Ardran, 41 North John Street, Liverpool, C.A. G. Wright is permanent managing director and chairman.

BRITISH DRUG HOUSES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 200,000*l.*, in 140,000 5-per-cent. first cumulative preference, 45,000 5-per-cent. second cumulative preference, and 15,000 ordinary shares, all of 1*l.* each. Objects: To acquire the businesses of Davy Hill & Hodgkinsons, Ltd., Barron, Harveys & Co., and Heaton, Squire & Francis, Ltd., and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, dyers, oil and colour men, brewers' chemists, spice-merchants, soap and cosmetic manufacturers, oil-pressers, wine and spirit merchants, importers and manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals for pharmaceutical, technical, photographic, scientific, and other purposes, manufacturers of medicinal preparations and proprietary articles, etc. The first subscribers are: C. A. Hill, C. Hodgkinson, F. Clarke, and A. Hicks, each of 64 Park Street, Southwark, S.E., wholesale druggists; R. K. Harvey, R. M. Harvey, and W. L. Howie, each of 5-6 Giltspur Street, E.C., wholesale druggists; G. B. Francis, A. Francis, and W. A. H. Naylor, each of 38 Southwark Street, S.E., wholesale druggists. The first directors are: C. A. Hill, C. Hodgkinson, F. Clarke, A. Hicks, R. K. Harvey, R. M. Harvey, W. L. Howie, G. B. Francis, A. Francis, and W. A. H. Naylor. Qualification, 1,000*l.* Remuneration of F. Clarke, 200*l.* per annum; of C. Hodgkinson, 100*l.* per annum; of other first directors (except managing directors), 350*l.* each per annum; of subsequent directors, as fixed by the company. Registered office, 38 Southwark Street, S.E.

G. B. KENT & SONS, LTD.—The directors have declared the usual dividend of 5*l.* per cent. upon the preference shares for the half-year ended September 30.

JUNIOR ARMY AND NAVY STORES, LTD.—On December 12 Mr. Tomlin appeared before Mr. Justice Neville, in the Chancery Division of the High Court, in support of the petition of the Junior Army and Navy Stores, Ltd., for sanction to the alteration of their articles or memorandum of association. The company, he said, was formed in 1879, with a capital of 100,000*l.* divided into 1*l.* shares. That capital had from time to time been increased, and it now stands at 250,000*l.*, of which 235,000*l.* had been issued and fully paid. There was also a debenture-issue, of which 253,000*l.* first mortgage and 100,000*l.* second mortgage were outstanding. The original memorandum of association was old-fashioned and limited, and the company petitioned for sanction to restate the memorandum in a modern form and to make alterations giving them further powers. Originally the object of the company was to supply shareholders, subscribers, and friends, and they asked, if approved by shareholders, to be allowed to supply the public generally and to manufacture the goods they supplied. They desired to be permitted to receive on deposit from the general public, as well as shareholders, subscribers, and friends, to invest and deal with the company's moneys, to remunerate persons for service, present and future, and to amplify certain other of their powers. His Lordship granted the petition.

IDRIS & CO., LTD.—The annual general meeting was held at Pratt Street, Camden Town, N., on December 15, when Mr. T. H. W. Idris, M.P., presided over a good attendance of shareholders. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the reports and accounts (*C. & D.*, December 12, Coloured Supplement) compared the various items with those of the previous year. He stated that the increased cost of distribution to the larger number of customers, whose trade had not increased proportionately, had diminished profits.

However, a loan of 7,000*l.* had been repaid to the bank, and the company was in a strong position financially, the reserve fund being profitably invested. The mineral-water trade boom up to 1900 tempted them and their competitors to invest capital to an extent not warranted by the present condition of the industry, and, although their position was not satisfactory, they were much better off than their competitors. They suffered considerably from the diminished purchasing-power of the public, as their products were not absolute necessities. The door-to-door distribution of aerated waters also affected them, and they called for more active support from the customers to obtain better results. With regard to the unfortunate scare owing to the examination of soda-water supplies, they were exceptionally fortunate in possessing a pure water, and a new addition to the qualified control of the manufacture was a bacteriological expert. An experimental system of sampling private houses yielded encouraging results, but their customers did not pay sufficient attention to keep the trade going. However, it was ascertained that lowness of price was not the sole criterion with the public, but that they were prepared to pay more for a reliable brand of aerated water. Probably many of the present manufacturers would have to go out of the business, and the Chairman stated that they would be able to maintain their position until the return of normal times. Mr. Adpar Jones having seconded the motion, Mr. J. Hick asked, Why not have a profit-and-loss account? He also thought that they were losing custom in the better establishments. The question of direct supply was raised by three speakers. Mr. Idris, in replying, stated that a profit-and-loss account mainly gave information to opponents, but they welcomed any inquiry or inspection by shareholders. Their chemist customers had done well in the past, and it was their duty to consider their interests as well as their own. They could, if necessary, compete on any ground. He believed they never had a better-class trade, which now included four Royal palaces and the Houses of Parliament. The reports were unanimously adopted. Mr. James Bradford and Mr. Walter H. W. Idris were re-elected directors and the auditors were reappointed. Votes of thanks to the directors concluded the proceedings.

MORTGAGES AND CHARGES.—The following have been registered: *Navinc Manufacturing Co., Ltd.*, chemical manufacturers, London. Mortgage to secure moneys due to Lloyds Bank Ltd.—*Kempson & Co., Ltd.*, chemical manufacturers, Alfreton. Mortgage securing 1,204*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*—*E. Brooksbank & Co., Ltd.*, soap-manufacturers, Keighley. Particulars of 12,000*l.* debentures created November 28, 1908, and since issued, have been filed. A memorandum of satisfaction in full of a trust deed dated October 1, 1906 (supplemental to a trust deed dated November 3, 1900, securing 10,000*l.* debentures), has been filed. Second mortgage debenture dated February 18, 1903, securing 6,000*l.*, and third mortgage debenture, dated 1906, securing 15,700*l.*, have also been filed.—*Electrolytic Alkali Co., Ltd., Middlewich*. An issue of 500*l.*, being part of 50,000*l.* first mortgage debentures created on July 9, 1904, has been filed.—The following memoranda of satisfaction in full have been filed: *Dixey's, Ltd.*, opticians, etc., London. Charge securing 1,000*l.*, March 8, 1907, and charge dated March 18, 1907, securing certain annuities.—*Trobridge & Co., Ltd.*, chemical manufacturers, Gateshead, 100*l.* debenture, dated March 26, 1902.—*Mellins Food, Ltd.*, London. A statement of the total amount outstanding on July 1 in respect of mortgages and charges has been filed pursuant to Section 12 of the Companies Act, 1907—viz., mortgage, dated 1901, stamped to cover 20,000*l.* (7,000*l.* outstanding on July 1, 1908).

Silver Wedding.

BERRY—OLDFIELD.—On December 12, 1883, at Christ Church, Erith, Kent, by the vicar, Rev. F. B. Gribbel, Andrew Wales Berry, chemist, Aberdeen (late of Queens-town, South Africa, and now of the Pharmacy, Dyce), to Jane Robinson ("Jennie"), second daughter of Mr. Henry Oldfield, of Erith.

Deaths.

ANDERSON.—At 4 Hill Bank Terrace, Kirriemuir, on December 5, John, son of the late David M. Anderson, chemist, aged thirty-six.

BARRON.—At Pennyland House, Broadway, Worcestershire, on December 10, Mr. Charles Bankes Barron, elder

son of the late Mr. Richard Bankes Barron, of Messrs. Barron, Harveys & Co., Giltspur Street, London, E.C. Mr. Barron was formerly on the Stock Exchange, but retired a few years ago owing to bad health.

BOWEN.—At Camberwell, Victoria, on October 6, Mr. William Bowen, pharmaceutical chemist, aged eighty-four. Mr. Bowen was one of the old school of pharmaceutical chemists of Great Britain, and went to Victoria in 1853, and became an assistant to Mr. George Lewis, then carrying on one of the leading businesses in Melbourne. A year later he became a partner, which he remained until 1859, when he purchased the business established ten years earlier by Dr. O'Mullane at 43 Collins Street. He continued this business until 1882, when he purchased the adjoining property and built fine premises, which he fitted, so that it was one of the handsomest pharmacies in the Southern Hemisphere. In 1886 he admitted into partnership his two sons, Mr. W. J. Bowen (now of Beechworth) and Mr. W. D. Bowen, and Mr. J. K. Vale. The two last-named died some years ago. Shortly afterwards he left for an extended visit to England and America. In 1891 he retired, selling the business to Messrs. Woolnough & Gulliver. Mr. Bowen was an original member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, and for several years its President. He was also for many years a member of the Pharmacy Board.

LAWSON.—At Manor House, Easington, on December 9, Mr. John Nicholas Lawson, chemist, aged seventy-two. Mr. Lawson was formerly in business as a chemist in the East-end of Sunderland, but retired from the pursuit of pharmacy over forty years ago. He was deeply interested in public affairs, and served on the Sunderland and Easington Boards of Guardians.

RIDLEY.—At 7 Hawthorn Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on December 14, Margaret (Morsie), beloved wife of Mr. Charles Ridley, F.C.S., Scotswood Road, aged thirty-eight. The interment took place at Elswick Cemetery on Wednesday, and among the friends present were Messrs. T. M. Clague, W. Pescod, R. Wright, E. Dean, R. Cubey, J. Graham, and J. Errington.

WALKER.—At Belmar, Kew Gardens, on December 14, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Mr. J. T. Ainslie Walker, F.C.S., in giving birth to stillborn child.

WALLIS.—At 5 Southbourne Grove, Bournemouth, on December 12, after a brief illness, Mr. Sydney W. Wallis, pharmaceutical chemist, aged thirty.

Recent Wills.

MR. STEPHEN GAUBERT, chemist and druggist, Wembley, Middlesex, left estate valued at 409*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

MR. ARTHUR DECK, Ph.C., F.C.S., of Cambridge, who died on September 3, left estate of the gross value of 402*l.* 12*s.*

MR. JOHN TOCHER, pharmaceutical chemist, Dumfries, who died on August 28, left personal estate valued at 2,704*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*

MR. GEORGE HENRY PARKER, chemist and druggist, Horsley Woodhouse, Derby, left estate of the gross value of 340*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*

MR. JOHN JAMES JONES, chemist and druggist, Buxton, who died on July 9, left estate of the value of 1,291*l.* gross and 912*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* net personalty.

MR. THOMAS STEPNEY, druggists' sundriesman, Brighton, who died on November 7, left estate valued at 1,216*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* gross, with net personalty 292*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*

MR. ARTHUR HULLAND, chemist and druggist, Walsall, and Watchet, Somerset, who died intestate on May 12 last, aged forty-four, left estate valued at 250*l.* gross.

MR. FREDERICK WARREN, of Chelmsford, Essex, chemist and druggist, who died on October 4, aged seventy-four, left estate valued at 1,186*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* gross, of which 1,035*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* is net personalty.

COCAINE IN CEYLON.—The Ceylon Government have issued a proclamation, dated November 10, 1908, bringing into force certain rules which have been made in accordance with the provisions of the Ceylon Poisons Ordinance of 1901. Under these rules it is provided, *inter alia*, that all cocaine arriving in Ceylon consigned to any wholesale dealer is to be declared at the Customs premises as cocaine, and may only be removed from the Customs or Post Office with a permit in prescribed form. The term "cocaine" includes all preparations of cocaine and salts of cocaine and their preparations.

Chemists' Calendars.

A pretty Highland sunset scene forms the centre of a card-calendar sent out by Messrs. Ernest Matthews, Ltd., Royston. The card to which the calendar is fastened is sage-green, and sets off the picture to advantage.

The International Bottle Co., 19 St. Dunstan's Hill, London, E.C., send out a combined blotting-pad and diary. The blotter takes the full-sized sheet of blotting-paper, and the calendar and diary are conveniently arranged along the top. It forms a useful desk companion.

The "Daydawn" Embrocation Co., 9 St. Nicholas Street, Leicester, publish a card-calendar (10½ in. square) to which a monthly tear-off is affixed. The centre of the calendar is appropriately occupied by a picture in colours entitled "Daydawn," by Carl Weber. Bloodine, a blood-purifier, is also advertised on this calendar. Any of our subscribers can have a copy if they write to the company.

Mr. John Milling, chemist, Town Hall Square, Chester, has produced a nice almanack and price-list for 1909. The covers are of special design and printed in half-tone, an illustration of Mr. Milling's chief shop being part of the design. This almanack is an ideal one; all the announcements refer to chemists' articles, the specialties being denoted by well-worded advertisements. The "Notes on the Use of some Medicines" are a good feature. Mr. Milling tells us he will gladly send a copy to any chemist who desires to see one, if applicants will enclose a stamped envelope.

Personalities.

MR. WOOLMER R. D. WHITE (of The Timothy White Co., Ltd., Portsmouth) has been made a J.P. for Hampshire.

MR. ALFRED E. BATES, Mercantile Chambers, 349 Collins Street, Melbourne, Vic., left London this week on his return to Australia.

PROFESSOR SIR JAMES DEWAR has been unanimously elected an honorary member of the Deutsche Chemische Gesellschaft.

MR. F. J. OLIVER, chemist and druggist, Maidstone, is a member of the committee appointed to form a local chamber of commerce.

ALDERMAN D. T. EVANS, J.P., ex-Mayor of Margate, has been appointed Chairman of the Watch Committee of the Corporation for the ensuing year.

ALDERMAN JOSEPH BEECHAM, J.P., St. Helens, has presented an organ to St. Andrew's Mission Church, Dentons Green, and an inaugural recital on it was given by his son, Mr. Harry Beecham, on December 15.

MR. EDWARD OWEN, Caersws, Mont., whose election to an annuity of the Pharmaceutical Benevolent Fund was reported last week, desires to thank those who voted for him, and especially those who interested themselves personally on his behalf.

An appreciation and portrait of Mr. Percy Knott, chemist and druggist, Bolton, was published in the "Bolton Chronicle" of December 12. Mr. Knott is one of the Bolton Poor Law Guardians, and this forms the first of a series of historical records of the town.

MR. H. W. HARRIE (representing Messrs. C. R. Harker, Stagg & Morgan, Ltd., on the South Coast and West of England) was, at the annual meeting of the Bournemouth, Poole, and District Branch of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association, unanimously elected Hon. Secretary.

MR. G. CLARIDGE DRUCE, of Oxford, is finding plenty to do in his retirement. Besides the new office noted last week he has recently been appointed Secretary to the Masonic Provincial Chamber for Oxfordshire, Chairman of the Sanitary, Hospital, and Midwives Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Public Library and Special Drainage Committee of the Oxford City Council, Chairman of the South Ward Allotments, and President of the South Oxford Cricket Club.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace on Monday, December 14, when Dr. Donald

MacAlister, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the Glasgow University and President of the General Medical Council, received the honour of knighthood and had conferred upon him the insignia of Knight Commander of the Bath. At the same time the following gentlemen received the honour of knighthood: Mr. James Duckworth, M.P. for Stockport; Mr. Thomas Barclay, of Messrs. Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham; Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.C.S.; Dr. Thomas Oliver, of Newcastle-on-Tyne; Professor J. J. Thomson, of Cambridge University; and Dr. Stewart Woodhouse, of Dublin.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. JEWBURY & BROWN, Ardwick Green, Manchester, have been by Royal Warrant appointed purveyors of mineral waters to the King of Spain.

VERONAL-SODIUM.—The firm of E. Merck, 16 Jewry Street, London, E.C., inform us that they market veronal-sodium, which we described in the *C. & D.*, November 28, p. 822.

MESSRS. AIMÉE LLOYD & Co. have, owing to the rebuilding of A. S. Lloyd's "Euxesis" manufactory, 3 Spur Street, London, W.C., taken temporary premises at 4 Carlton Street, Waterloo Place, Regent Street, S.W.

MESSRS. OPPENHEIMER, SON & Co., LTD., Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., have been elected members of the Academia Fisico Chimica Italiana, Palermo, Al Merito, and have been awarded a diploma and gold medal by the Academy.

"SANITAS BACTOY."—The Sanitas Co., Ltd., Locksley Street, Limehouse, E.C., are now making this disinfectant of four definite carbolic acid co-efficients—viz., 10, 14, 16, and 20. It is a homogeneous and saponaceous preparation, which on dilution with water forms an almost odourless emulsion, without separation of oil, and possessing excellent detergent as well as germicidal properties.

"OQUIT" is a headache and neuralgia cure in tablet form, for which Messrs. T. Christy & Co., Old Swan Lane, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C., are the agents. The tablets are neatly packed in attractively labelled amber-glass tubes. The preparation is stated to be free from opiates, chloral, strychnine, colchicum, and other poisons. "Oquit" retails at 1s. 1½d., and costs 10s. 3d. per dozen in cartons containing that number.

"FROZEN FOAM."—It appears not to be generally known that Messrs. Davy Hill & Hodgkinsons, Ltd., 64 Park Street, Southwark, London, S.E., registered as a trade-mark (No. 284,928 of 1906) in the United Kingdom the words "Frozen Foam" for a skin-preparation. They inform us that the trade-mark has been infringed in several directions, probably through inadvertence, but this note may serve as a caution to those who are under the impression that the name is not registered.

TO-KALON MANUFACTURING Co., 61 New Oxford Street, London, W.C., are placing all their preparations on the P.A.T.A. list as from January 1, 1909. They comprise Lavona de Composee, Flowers of Oxzoin, French Fon Fleur (To-Kalon) perfume, American Beauty Rose perfume, Harriett Meta's hair- tonic and milk of roses, and Creme To-Kalon. Lavona will be reduced from 1s. 11d. to 1s. 6d., and the Flowers from 2s. 3d. to 1s. 11d., and a 10d. bottle of To-Kalon perfume will be put on the market. The American Beauty Rose perfume is now being put up in 1-oz. bottles at 3s. 6d.

TERPENELESS OILS.—Mr. Arthur Whittaker, Newton Heath, Manchester, has been appointed agent for Messrs. Santi de Pasquale & Figli, Messina, for their improved sesqui-terpeneless oils, standard terpeneless oils, and oils of neroli. We have had an opportunity of examining samples of the lemon, orange, and neroli oils, and find them sweet in flavour. There are two kinds of terpeneless lemon-oil, one variety being deprived of the sesquiterpenes, the solubility of the product being thereby improved. These terpeneless oils are worth the attention of essence-makers and aerated-water manufacturers, who should inquire of Mr. Whittaker as to price and the special claims made in regard to these products. The neroli oil is particularly suited for eau de Cologne manufacture.

ONE-DROP PERFUMES.—An attractive ribbed-metal case, with a ring to attach it to a lady's chatelaine, is the exterior of a new series of concentrated perfumes issued by Messrs. F. Newbery & Sons, 27 and 28 Charterhouse Street, London, E.C. On unscrewing the top, a neat miniature bottle, cemented to the lower half of the case, is exposed. The glass stopper is prolonged into a rod to obtain the "one drop" of perfume required to perfume a handkerchief, etc. The perfume, although highly concentrated, is pleasant, and the novelty should meet with a good demand. The card, with different varieties, holds a dozen. The retail price is 1s., and they cost 7s. 6d. a dozen, less 5 per cent. for cash in one month.

Christmas Holidays.

THE ERASMIC CO., LTD., Warrington, will close their works from Thursday, December 24, to Tuesday, December 29.

MESSRS. GOODALL, BACKHOUSE & Co. are closing their London office and warehouse, 54 Southwark Street, S.E., from Thursday, 24th, to Monday, 28th.

MESSRS. ALLEN & HANBURY, LTD., Bethnal Green, London, E., will close their works and warehouse from Friday, December 25, to Monday, December 28, inclusive.

MESSRS. F. NEWBERY & SONS, LTD., Charterhouse Street, London, E.C., will close their premises on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, and also on December 30 and 31 for stock-taking.

MESSRS. C. J. HEWLETT & SON, LTD., 35-42 Charlotte Street, London, E.C., will close from Friday, December 25, to Tuesday, December 29, inclusive, resuming business on Wednesday, December 30. Urgent orders will be attended to on the Monday and Tuesday during stocktaking.

MESSRS. HEARON, SQUIRE & FRANCIS, LTD., 38 and 40 Southwark Street, London, S.E., will close on Christmas Day and the day following. Owing to the change that takes place on January 1, 1909, they ask their friends to anticipate their requirements as early as possible, as their warehouses and offices will be closed for stocktaking from Tuesday, December 29, to Thursday, December 31, inclusive, reopening on Friday, January 1, as a branch of the British Drug-houses, Ltd. (Hearon, Squire and Francis, Ltd.).

Chemical Society.

A MEETING of this Society was held on December 3, at Burlington House, London, W., the President (Sir W. Ramsay, F.R.S.) being in the chair. There was a long list of papers down for reading, but none of these were of much pharmaceutical interest. Messrs. Marsh and Struthers contributed a series of three papers on

COMPOUNDS OF CAMPHOR AND OTHER KETONES WITH MERCURIC IODIDE AND POTASSIO-MERCURIC IODIDE.

The parent substance was obtained by adding potassium iodide to a solution of mercuric chloride and camphor in alcohol. No precipitation occurs, and on evaporating the solvent crystals of the compound $(C_{10}H_{16}O)_2 \cdot 2HgI_2$ are obtained. By varying the conditions a series of more complex substances of this type can be prepared. The physiological activity of these products is being tested, but no results are available as yet. Mr. Baly then read a paper on

SOME PYRONES AND ALLIED COMPOUNDS,

in conjunction with Professor Collie and Mr. Watson. It brought forward spectrochemical evidence in favour of Professor Collie's representation of γ -pyrones as bridged ring structures containing a tetravalent oxygen atom.

DICAMPHORYLARSINIC ACID

was then described by Dr. Morgan and Miss Micklethwait, who obtained this new organic arsenic compound by treating camphor with arsenic trichloride. It is crystalline and has the formula $(C_{10}H_{16}O)_2 \cdot HAsO_2$. Mr. Cocksedge then described briefly the preparation and properties of tellurium dicyanide and of boron thiocyanate, and in the last few minutes Mr. A. E. Dunstan gave a very hurried account of some further work on the viscosity of liquid mixtures.

During the evening a ballot for the election of Fellows was read, and among those elected were Messrs. R. C. Cowley, H. Fairburn, Ph.C., E. P. Minett, Ph.C., M.D., G. E. Pearson (general manager of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), A. Rennie (ex-President Pharmaceutical Society of the Transvaal), and W. F. Roach, M.D., M.S. (member of the Pharmaceutical Association of Quebec).

Business Changes.

MESSRS. M. SAMUEL & Co. have removed to new offices at Shell House, 104-105 Bishopsgate Street Within, London, E.C.

MESSRS. F. H. JOHNSON & Co., LTD., High Street, Lewisham, London, S.E., have sold their business to Mr. Williams.

MR. S. J. JOHNSON has purchased the branch business of Messrs. T. E. Butler, Son & Co., at 163 Fosse Road, Leicester.

MESSRS. DOMEIER & Co. announce that they have transferred their offices and warehouse from 20 and 21 to 8 Harp Lane, London, E.C.

MR. H. M. ROBIN, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. Alex. McCutcheon, chemist and druggist, at 14 Leven Street, Edinburgh.

THE IMPERIAL DRUG-STORES have opened at 4 Loampit Hill, Lewisham, London, S.E., where Mr. S. A. Remfry, Ph.C., carried on business for many years.

MR. S. E. AMOS, chemist and druggist, has taken over the branch business at Colwall of Mr. E. J. Clark, chemist and druggist, Malvern Wells. Mr. Amos has acted as manager since the opening of the pharmacy in 1906.

MR. T. W. HAZELBY has sold his pharmacy at Hungerford to Mr. Arthur Heanes Bingham, of Long Sutton, Lincs, through Messrs. Berdoo & Fish, and will shortly open an up-to-date pharmacy at Bargate, Christchurch, Hants. Mr. Hazelby is a Minor man, and is so confident of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill passing that his labels are to bear the title "Pharmacist."

The Week's Poisonings.

EIGHT suicides and six misadventures with poisons have occurred during the week. Of the substances causing death, four are in Part I. and five in Part II. of the Schedule, while five are unscheduled. Joseph A. Dean (54), traveller, committed suicide at Rowton House, Hammersmith, by taking cyanide of potassium dissolved in wine.—Edward J. Howland, Carlrow, was found dead at his residence with a bottle which had contained prussic acid by his side. The usual verdict was returned.—Maurice Bagwell (2) died at Kennington from an overdose of Easton's syrup, and an excessive dose of morphine caused the death of an infant named Otto W. F. C. Ussher at Southsea (p. 924).—Edith Hopkinson (40), domestic servant, Burnage, had made previous attempts at committing suicide and attained that end by taking carbolic acid.—Maurice Walsh died at Waterford through taking carbolic acid in mistake for whisky.—William J. Schofield (54), West Gorton, was a martyr to rheumatism, so he committed suicide by means of oxalic acid.—Phoebe Burford (29), Brixton, used the same lethal agent for suicidal purposes.—Herbert O'Flanagan (22), an Islington barman, ended his love troubles by taking laudanum.—The usual verdict was returned at the inquest on Sarah W. Foster, Goldenhill, Staffs, who died from phosphorus poisoning.—According to medical evidence a Spaniard named Charles Lopez (32), of Brixton, died from mercurial poisoning. It was stated that deceased was constantly taking drugs and pills, which he carried about loosely in his pockets.—Rosina E. Cook (33), Bristol, was in the habit of taking "cheap powders" for headache. The jury said that death was due to the powders taken by the deceased.—Emily Ogle died at Hull from the effects of drinking a "strong acid."—Rose Marshall (60), Belfast, drank ammonia by misadventure instead of lemonade, and afterwards died in the hospital.

Observations and Reflections.

By "Xrayser."

The Committee Stage

of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill cannot be considered to have reinstated the credit of the House of Commons in respect of legislation of this character. Old admirers of the British Parliament sometimes likened it to the elephant's trunk, which could pick up a pin or root out an oak. On no occasion during the passage of this measure through Parliament has either House shown evidence of a real appreciation of its proposals, which may affect the public safety or the legitimate private interests of a considerable number of decent citizens more or less seriously. It may be said that members of both Houses have been satisfied with the assurance that the clauses of the Bill have been agreed after exhaustive discussions by experts representing all the interests involved; but the High Court of Parliament claims to be something more than a registration office. Mr. Herbert Samuel may be credited with a respectable degree of acquaintance with the details of a subject outside the scope of his special department, but the blindest disciples of Mr. Alexander Cross and Lord Ronaldshay, if these statesmen have any disciples, will hardly care to commemorate in marble their shadowy services on this Committee. And yet on these two members of Parliament fell almost entirely the burden of discussing the details of this new scheme for regulating the sale of poisons. The *C. & D.* has done a service to future historians of British pharmacy by giving a verbatim report of the speeches on the second-reading debate, but even with that advantage in favour of this occasion I am inclined to think that the chronicler of fifty years hence will be forced to the conclusion that the Parliament of 1868 dealt with the proposals before it more intelligently than its descendant of 1908.

Mr. Idris's Amendment

substituting the word "poisonous" for "poison" required to be used on labels of sulphuric and nitric acids and other substances included in Clause 5 may be regarded as usefully distinguishing these outside products from those admitted to the statutory rights of poisons to the full extent. But Mr. Idris's purpose would have been better served and the safety of the public more assured if some word or words less closely related to "poison" had been adopted. "Poisonous" carries in popular estimation the meaning of partaking of the character of poison, just as we understand by "vinous" or "spirituous" liquids which are not wines or spirits, but which may contain a small proportion of those articles. "Poisonous" is, in fact, about midway between unwholesome and deadly; and this is not quite the way to describe oil of vitriol. "Dangerously corrosive" would have been a more effective deterrent on the labels, and would have been further removed from the word "poison" than "poisonous" can be.

At Bradford

last week the President of the Pharmaceutical Society gave what the reporter calls "the interesting information" that "a few years ago, when a firm of grocers usurped the title of 'pharmaceutical chemist,' the Society, most anxious to fight, could not find a leading counsel who had a reputation to lose who would advise them to take the matter up." The information is particularly interesting and curious, especially so far as it concerns those eminent and most scrupulous counsel, for it would not have required a large amount of legal acumen for one of them to discover sufficient distinction between the title "chemist and

druggist" and that of "pharmaceutical chemist" to base an argument upon. It is true that both are named in the fifteenth section of the 1868 Act, and to that extent it seems reasonable to infer that the reservation of their use applies to "persons" only under the 1880 judgment in the House of Lords. But it has to be remembered that the Courts have never had before them the question of the title particularly. They decided that the Legislature did not intend to prohibit companies from carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist; had not thought about companies, in fact. It was a reasonable deduction from this that companies might also use the term which described that business, but it is not absolutely certain that this follows. But the title "pharmaceutical chemist" stands on altogether different ground. It was created by the Act of 1852 expressly to distinguish certain chemists and druggists who had acquired a defined qualification, and the whole context of that Act shows clearly that it was intended to be reserved to those persons. The Judges in the 1879-80 action one after another said they would interpret the section referring to keeping open shop against the companies if they found that the context of the Act necessitated this construction. Lords Justices Bramwell, Baggallay, and Thesiger and Lord Selborne all said as much as this explicitly; they could not possibly have read the 1852 Act without concluding that its sections from beginning to end insisted on its application to persons only. No suggestion of public policy in justification of its usurpation by companies could have been offered. The essential distinction between the statutory position of the two titles is that in 1852 "pharmaceutical chemist" was invented for a particular purpose, while in 1868 the description "chemist and druggist," which had been in popular use for centuries, was brought under limitations.

Ten Doctors,

most of them, I believe, of the modern school of therapeutics—that is, pharmacologists who have no use for medicines which cannot be proved on frogs—have drawn up a report, which was published in last week's "British Medical Journal," advising the deletion of about a hundred drugs and their preparations from the next British Pharmacopœia, naming nine formulas which they think might be improved, and suggesting seventeen substances, mostly new within the past twenty years, which they want to see added. These gentlemen, it is fair to say, are described as the Therapeutic Committee of the British Medical Association, so that they are in a sense representative. The selection of medicines for inclusion in the Pharmacopœia is obviously a matter which must be dependent on the experience and discretion of medical practitioners. But pharmacists who know nothing of the therapeutic value of the drugs they provide and prepare may be permitted to indulge in an historic sigh over the vast waste of laborious investigation which thousands of chemists, botanists, and natural historians,

From Dioscorides to Daniel Hanbury,

have been devoting to drugs and their cultivation and treatment, to be told now that they are "unnecessary," "very little used," or "do not possess the virtue attributed" to them. Ammoniacum, arnica, gamboge, chamomile-flowers, conium leaves and fruit, galbanum, guaiacum-wood, cherry laurel, mezereon, musk, pareira brava, sassafras, styrax, sumbul, and taraxacum are among the old aristocrats of our materia medica thus cavalierly dismissed as useless or superfluous. With them the wines, the juices, and the distilled waters are to be cleared out; and the ten doctors have no further use for white wax, white-lead, codeine, or valerianate of zinc. Geniuses of the past devised imitations of famous proprietary compounds, but their substitutes for James's powder, Ward's paste, and Condy's fluid are now coldly bowed out. Galen tells of a gladiator to whose broken head an opium plaster was applied with a fatal result, but the ten inform us that opium has no local action, so away go the emplastrum and the linimentum. The mint-water controversy is settled by the summary dismissal of aqua and oleum menthe viridis, and Pharmacopœia canonisation is to be withdrawn from brandy, sherry, figs, nutmegs, and prunes. The ingratitude manifested in that column of desired rejections is colossal.

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Editorial Comments.

"C. & D. Diary, 1909."

OUR publishing staff have been busy this week despatching *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* to subscribers in the United Kingdom. Those for London and the large provincial towns have been forwarded by the Globe Express, Ltd., carriage paid, and should be delivered free of charge in all cases. In other instances, in order to insure prompt delivery, they have been forwarded per parcel post. Last week we mentioned some of the new features in the *Diary*, and we trust that they will be found of such a nature as to make it a still more valuable desk-companion to all our subscribers. One of the earliest *Diary* mottoes for the year is: "A chemist cannot have too much knowledge of his business." It was Sir Edward Evans who said that, and it is one of the principles upon which the *Diary* has been compiled. We have put a great deal more about business into it, the kind of knowledge that the chemist—be he retail, manufacturing, or wholesale—may want at any moment. The outside cover tells where to look for it:

ADVERTISEMENT INDEX PAGE 169
BUYERS' GUIDE PAGE 177
LITERARY INDEX ... ON THE TITLE-PAGE (v.)
Telegraphic Addresses and Telephone Nos. ... PAGE 190

In each copy of the *Diary* is a coupon card, the top of which is a catch-the-eye-quick list of the principal contents. Place this at the desk. The rest of the card is to be returned to us. On the first part of the card are the following five questions:

Which is the most interesting advertisement in the *Diary*?
Which is the most artistic advertisement?
Which is the most original advertisement?
Which advertisement do you like best?
Name a firm not advertising in the *Diary* whose advertisement therein would be useful to you.

The second card asks subscribers to mention what they consider to be the happiest quotation in the interleaved pages; or to quote any saying by a pharmacist or regarding pharmacy which strikes them as worth repeating. We offer ten guineas in prizes, and hope the response will be smart and plentiful. The conditions are given on the card, and families and staffs of subscribers are eligible to compete. Copies of the *Diary* will be supplied as long as available at 3s. 6d. each post free, or 2s. 6d. to subscribers.

British Perfumery Exports.

THERE has recently been published officially a revised list of bonded warehouses which is of interest to those who export or manufacture perfumery and articles of a cognate character. The list for the first time throws light on the individual responsible alike to the Crown and the merchant for the safety and care of the goods stored in these "bonds." Thus in the undermentioned list of the perfumery bonded warehouses the name of the warehouse-keeper is published—information that will not be without its value to both traders

and warehouse officials. What the precise reasons were for this innovation are not known, but the step indicates the desire on the part of the Government authorities to supply more information and assistance than has been done in the past. It is impossible to come to any other conclusion after reading the evidence of the late Principal of the Statistical Office given before the Departmental Committee on Trade Records. Inasmuch as it is ten years since the previous book of bonded warehouses was published, a comparison with the list of the perfumery bonded factories then and now cannot but prove instructive, and it is accordingly given here :

1899.

Port	Number and Name of Bonded Warehouse	Situation	For what Approved
London ...	Perfumery Warehouse	St. Katharine (Tower)	Manufacture of perfumed spirits
" ...	Bull Wharf	Upper Thames Street	" "
" ...	Gosnell's Warehouse	" "	" "
" ...	Joiners' Hall Perfumery Warehouse	" "	Manufacture of perfumery in bond for exportation only
Southampton..	1st Floors	French Street	" "

1908.

Port	Number and Name of Warehouse	Situation	Name of Warehouse-keeper	For what Approved
London ...	Perfumery Warehouse	St. Katharine Dock	London and India Docks Co.	Manufacture of perfumed spirits
" ...	Joiners' Hall Perfumery Warehouse	No. 3 Joiners' Hall Buildings, Upper Thames St.	H. Sardon & Co.	Manufacture of perfumery in bond for exportation only
" ...	Maconochie's Bonded Warehouse	West Ferry Rd., Millwall, E.	Maconochie Bros., Ltd.	Manufacture of perfumed spirits and essences for exportation
Southampton ...	1st Floors	40 French St.	Luce's Eau de Cologne Co., Ltd.	Manufacture of perfumery in bond for exportation only

It will be observed that in London and Southampton only do these special warehouses exist, and that at the present time there are four as compared with five ten years ago. Notwithstanding this diminution the output to-day from the four warehouses is three-quarters as much again as it was from the five warehouses in 1897, and it is noticeable that only during the last three years has this progress been made. South America has been the customer answerable for this increase, particularly the Argentine Republic, Chili, and Uruguay. The output last year was 35,421 liquid gals., valued at practically 3*l.* per gal. These perfumery warehouses are under the jurisdiction of the Customs, and consequently the proprietors have to submit to regulations as to hours of manufacture, restriction of materials, supervision, and more or less control which are absent in the case of the perfumer exporting from his own factory on drawback. On the other hand, the bonded competitor works on duty-free spirit, involving no locking-up of capital in the form of duty-payments, and he also is saved all inconveniences of complying with drawback requirements and payment of licence-duty. Any person may use the bonded warehouse for making, packing, and exploiting perfumed spirits, but it is to be observed that in no instance can the warehouse factory be used for home-consumption purposes.

The bonded perfumery-factory is a kind of neutral or no-man's ground, where every entrant's face is set seawards, and only in the instance of re-landed goods is there any return once the perfumes have passed the warehouse gates. Until lately the Customs appeared to draw the line strictly at perfumed spirits, but Messrs. Maconochie Bros. succeeded in getting "essences" included, and there can hardly be a doubt that importunity would open the warehouse door to "tinctures" also. If not, why not? At present officials are averse to "manufacture" being carried on in these bonded warehouses, and only favour "addition," or mixing of spirit and perfumery ingredients; but if the interests of commerce demand, in the future, an extension of the warehouse facilities to exporters, officials must give way. Tobacco is manufactured in bond, both for export and home consumption; sugar is refined in bond; coffee is roasted; tea and various articles manufactured from dutiable goods. As to whether the warehouse gate or the "licensed" factory is the more preferable means of exit to foreign markets remains to be seen. At present three-quarters' less "perfumery"—scents, waters, washes, dentifrices, and brillian-tines—leaves the warehouse door than that which leaves the "drawback" door, but there is this ominous fact—that the warehouse exporters are now making up for lost time, and in consequence their rate of progress exceeds that of the licensed exporter. Another striking fact is that whereas the "foreigner" is the best customer of the one, the "Colonial" is the best customer of the other. This particular export trade is in its infancy, and only needs fostering to grow. An export trade of over 100,000*l.* annually shows not only the value of this particular infant in the trade cradle, but the potentialities of development. The offspring from the bonded warehouse is showing lusty vigour and increasing strength, while the "drawback" youngster is putting on weight, and it will be interesting to watch the growth of each. With the probability of fiscal reciprocity and differentiation in the future, perfumery exporters may have additional avenues open to them abroad, but at the same time it cannot be overlooked that the high import-duty of 18*s.* 1*d.* per gal. in cask and 19*s.* 1*d.* in bottle acts somewhat as a protection, and may be reduced under a system of give and take. The total value of the import perfumery-trade of the United Kingdom is not 40,000*l.* per annum—an indication of fiscal restriction; but even with a substantial reduction it is very doubtful whether British perfumery-manufacturers would be ousted by the foreigner. To the exporter the prospect is one of expanse, and we cannot say that it is one of contraction to the home producer.

The Medical B.P.

THE British Pharmacopœia is a medical work. We pharmacists are apt to forget that, for in it we live, move, and have our being pharmaceutical. Our preparations are made to conform to it, our commercial conduct is measured ethically according to it, and occasionally, but rarely, we are judicially arraigned in face of it. Yet it is medical. "Xrayser" on a previous page assures us of that in his pertinent remarks respecting the advice that the Therapeutic Committee of the British Medical Association has given to the Pharmacopœia Committee of the General Medical Council. The former committee is rather a distinguished body of ten, all good therapeutists or pharmacologists, mostly of the modern school, representing diverse medical interests and varied in practical experience. They are Drs. J. B. Bradbury, T. E. Burton Brown, Raymond Crawford, A. R. Cushny, W. E. Dixon, C. R. Marshall, R. Stockman, Nestor I. C. Tirard, W. Hale White, and R. B. Wild. It is impossible to dispute the wisdom of any

of them, from the point of view of reputation, and they are not responsible for their designation "Therapeutic Committee," perhaps the most singular matter about them. We are told in the report published in a supplement to the "British Medical Journal" (December 12) that the principles which have guided this committee in selecting the substances which they consider desirable to omit or to add to the Pharmacopœia are as follows :

(i.) Crude drugs which contain an active ingredient possessing all the desirable actions of the crude drug might be replaced by this active ingredient if it can be obtained commercially and its identification and purity ensured. If such an active principle is official, the crude drug might be deleted. For example, *jaborandi* leaves, *coca* leaves, *elaterium*, and many crude drugs yielding only volatile oils might be omitted.

(ii.) Drugs and their preparations possessing no obvious or serviceable action should be deleted, *e.g.*, *arnica* rhizome, *cusparia* bark, *hemidesmus* root, *lupulin*, *mezereum* bark, *serpentry* rhizome.

(iii.) Unnecessary duplication of the preparations of a drug should be avoided. Thus, one 1-per-cent. solution of a morphine salt, or one solid extract of *belladonna*, is sufficient.

(iv.) Purely diluent preparations of a drug should, as far as possible, be avoided, *e.g.*, solution of potassium permanganate, almond mixture.

(v.) Substances which do not require to be defined officially for the protection of the practitioner, or the vendor or purchaser, *e.g.*, *prunes*, *figs*, *brandy*, *sherry*, might be omitted.

(vi.) Substances of no therapeutic importance which are used only in the making of preparations, and are not contained in the final products, should be deleted or transferred to an appendix, *e.g.*, *benzol*, solution of iron persulphate.

These are very radical suggestions, which a flippant sentence or two might throw out of the province of serious consideration, but we reprint them so that they may be solemnly considered by pharmacists. "(i.) Crude drugs" raises an important question. Pharmacologists are undoubtedly agreed that they obtain the best physiological results from "active ingredients"; but we wonder how often the definite chemical substances which they use represent the complete activity of the drugs from which they are obtained? Will *cinchona* rank with *jaborandi*? Can *coca* be in every case replaced by *cocaine*, or a volatile oil take the place of the crude drug from which it is distilled? We venture to say that general principles are not ripe to answer these questions in the affirmative. Nor will all practitioners agree that the (ii.) suggestion is ripe for adoption; indeed, it is highly probable that the committee of ten, who say that *cusparia*, *hemidesmus*, *serpentry*, and certain other drugs possess no obvious or serviceable action, have so little experience with them that their opinion is of small value. Did they ask St. Bartholomew's Hospital what service *hemidesmus* has done in that institution? This question is typical of many that might be put regarding *materia medica*. Modern therapeutics is dominated by chemical principles and physiological effects determined by experimenters in laboratories; while our Pharmacopœia is made up of remedies which practitioners have found to be of service in alleviating or curing human ailments, and so long as they are in use for that purpose they deserve a place in the Pharmacopœia. Moreover, the things that are only used occasionally are more needful of official description than those which are universally used, since all experience proves that descriptions of the occasional are most useful. The committee's other principles are not so radical as the first two, but they suggest that ten members felt that they had to say something. The following are the deletions which they suggest :

Suppos. acid. carbolic, *Acid. gallic.*, *Ammoniacum* and preparations, *Ammonii phosphas*, *Mist. amygdalæ*, *Fructus anethi*, *Fructus anisi*, *Flor. anthem.* and preparation, *Pulv. antim.*, *Antim. nig. purif.*, *Argenti oxid.*, *Arnica rhiz.* and preparation, *Ext. bellad. virid.*, *Bism. oxid.*, *Caffeina citras*, *Liq. calcis sacch.*, *Cambogia* and preparation, *Emp. calefaciens*, *Carui fructus* and *aqua*, *Caryophyllum* and *infusum*,

Cera alba, *Cerii oxalas*, *Cimicifugæ rhiz.* and preparations, *Fol. cocæ* and *galenical preps.*, *Codeina*, *Fol. and fruct. conii* and preparations, *Mist. creosoti*, *Tr. croci*, *Cort. cuspariæ* and preparations, *Elaterium*, *Liq. ferri acet.*, *Ferri arsenas*, *Ferri carbonas sacch.*, *Liq. ferri persulph.*, *Ferri phosphas*, *Ficus*, *Fruct. fœniculi* and *aqua*, *Galbanum*, *Ung. gallæ*, *Lig. guaiaci*, *Liq. hamamelidis*, *Rad. hemidesmi* and preparation, *Hyo-sciaminæ sulphas*, *Suppos. iodoformi*, *Acet. ipecac.*, *Fol. jaborandi* and preparations, *Fol. laurocerasi* and preparation, *Liq. concentrati*, *Cort. limonis*, *Lupulinum*, *Lupulus* and preparations, *Liq. mag. carb.*, *Aq. and ol. menthæ viridis*, *Emp. menthol*, *Cort. mezeri*, *Liq. morph. acet. and tart.*, *Moschus*, *Myristica*, *Emp. opii*, *Ext. opii*, *Lin. opii*, *Cap. papaveris*, *Rad. pareiræ* and preparation, *Ol. phosphorat.*, *Pil. phosphori*, *Emp. picis*, *Pimenta* and preparations, *Piper nig.* and preparation, *Pix burgundica*, *Plumbi carb.* and preparation, *Ung. pot. iod.*, *Liq. pot. permang.*, *Prunum*, *Lig. pterocaryi*, *Rad. pyrethri* and preparation, *Ext. and inf. rhei*, *Rhœadæ petala* and preparation, *Rosæ gallicæ petala* and preparation, *Ol. rosæ*, *Flor. sambuci* and preparation, *Rad. sassafra*, *Scammonium*, *Rhiz. serpentariæ* and preparations, *Liq. sodii ethylatis*, *Spiritus vini gallici*, *Ung. staphisagriæ*, *Stramonii semina*, *Stryax*, *Succi (all)*, *Rad. sumbul* and preparation, *Rad. taraxaci* and preparations, *Terebinthina canadensis*, *Thus americanum*, *Zinci acetas*, *Liquor zinci chloridi*, *Zinci valerianas*, *Vin. aurantii* and *xericum*.

We are also told that the following preparations might with advantage be improved : *Acid. nitro-hydrochlor.*, *dilutum*, *Hydrargyri oleas*, *Pil. hydrarg. subchlor. co.*, *Spt. ætheris nitrosi*, *Vin. antimoniales*, *colchici*, and *ipecacuanhæ*, *Ung. zinci oleatis*, and *Ext. opii liq.*

It is further suggested that the following should be added to the Pharmacopœia :

Acetyl-salicylic acid, *Methyl salicylate*, a preparation possessing the properties of the suprarenal gland, *hexamethylene tetramine*, *veronal*, a solution of *formaldehyde*, *Ethyl chloride*, a soluble preparation of *theobromine*, a solution of *soap and cresol*, *Chloralamide*, *Extract of malt*, a less toxic alternative to *cocaine*, *Guaiacol*, *Orthoform*, *Antidiphtheric serum*, *acetone* as a solvent, *Red peroxide of iron* as an insoluble colouring-agent for the appendix.

These suggestions will doubtless receive careful consideration, but we cannot help feeling that the committee have asked more than they expect to get.

Poisons and Pharmacy Bill.

UP to Thursday this Bill had made no progress in the House of Commons. There was a chance for the report stage on Wednesday evening, but owing to certain amendments having been put down and negotiations in regard to them not being completed, the Bill was carried over until Thursday, when it was third in the orders. It was reached shortly after four o'clock, and was read a third time in the course of a few minutes. The amendments which were on the paper were as follows :

Mr. Joynson-Hicks :

Page 2, leave out Clause 2.

Mr. Claude Hay :

Clause 2, page 1, line 23, after "killers," insert "nor in the case of medical preparations containing any of the poisons from time to time comprised in Part II. of Schedule A to the Pharmacy Act, 1868, provided that such preparations be sold in closed wrappers bearing in legible characters the name of a pharmaceutical chemist or of a chemist and druggist registered under the Pharmacy Act, 1868, as a compounder of the preparation."

Mr. Wedgwood :

Clause 2, page 2, line 11, leave out sub-section 2.

Mr. Cooper :

Clause 4, page 4, line 28, leave out "qualified military dispensers."

Sir William Collins :

Clause 4, page 4, line 28, after "dispensers," insert "or of certified dispensers."

Clause 4 page 4 line 28, after "dispensers," insert "or certified assistants to apothecaries under the Apothecaries Act, 1815."

Mr. Herbert Samuel :

Clause 8, page 5, line 37, leave out "January," and insert "April."

Only the last two amendments were submitted to the House, and they were agreed to.

Mr. Joynson-Hicks is understood to have acted for Manchester chemists, and Mr. Claude Hay for the grocers. The latter's amendment was hopeless in view of the fact that the principle of the Statute is the qualification of the retail vendor, which it controverts. We observe that "The Grocer," in a not altogether well-informed article, supports the proposal on the ground that it was the intention of the 1868 Act to exempt proprietary medicines as well as patented medicines from the operations of the Act so far as the qualification of the vendor is concerned. Our contemporary is aware that this was overruled by the High Court—the *Pharmaceutical Society v. Piper* (1893), and the *Pharmaceutical Society v. Fox* (1896)—but it is as much out in its dates as in its deductions from the decisions. Sir William Collins's second amendment was really an improvement upon the first, which was given in earlier and was not removed from the paper. Although carried it will mean little or nothing to apothecaries' assistants, since the power remains entirely with the Pharmaceutical Council to decide on evidence that the qualification is equal to that of the Society's. Mr. Samuel's amendment to postpone the operation of the Act until April 1, 1909, was necessary for giving time to arrange the new conditions which have to be enforced. The Bill is probably now in the House of Lords, and there is every likelihood that it will be assented to by the King this week. It is appropriate, therefore, to say now that the "chance" which a few months ago we claimed for Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones has been well-used by him. He has had many willing helpers, but it is largely due to his indomitable perseverance, his knowledge of the law, his art of conciliation, and his genius for scenting trouble ahead that success has been secured. Mr. Herbert Samuel has in his handling of the Bill repeated earlier performances which have carried him as a parliamentarian to the portal of the Cabinet.

One or two points which have arisen outside Parliament deserve mention here. The Secretary of the North Staffordshire Chemists' Association has written each member of Parliament for the northern half of Staffordshire, asking them to support the Government in their endeavour to pass the Bill, but the letter contains the following paragraph, which rather counteracts this solicitation:

This Bill does not concede what is demanded as their right by chemists as a body—namely, the exclusive right to the title of "chemist" or "chemist and druggist," which was conferred by the Act of 1868 upon individuals on registration after examination only. As you doubtless will have noticed, companies or corporate bodies who are not mentioned in the Act of 1868 by the present Bill will be allowed to use the title, provided that they have a qualified director on their board, and a qualified manager in every branch shop where the business is carried on; and it is proposed to reserve to individuals who have passed the qualifying examination the title of "pharmacist." This the Pharmaceutical Society have agreed to; but my Association would ask you to kindly note, and, if necessary, to claim, that provision ought to be made in the Bill for the protection to the "pharmacist" of the title "pharmacy" as the name of the place where his business is carried on. Unless this is distinctly provided for, confusion and misappropriation of the word "pharmacy" will be sure to result.

The idea that there is no provision in the Bill for the protection of the title "pharmacist" is erroneous. Corporate bodies who use it will be subject to prosecution under Section 15 of the 1868 Act, which carries a fine of 5*l*. The suggestion that the description "pharmacy" should be protected has been considered, and as it is not a personal title, but the description of a place, there is no hope of getting the Government to legislate along this perfectly novel line. Another matter calls for close watching by chemists and druggists. A well-known maker of horticultural preparations has notified his agents and others in regard to the effect of the Bill. He says:

It is proposed that the power of granting licences shall be vested in local authorities. As soon as this is definitely fixed and announced, no time should be lost by horticultural and agricultural firms in applying for a licence to retail poisonous compounds in connection with their business. Those who have been acting as selling-agents for the manufacturer should state this in their application, and the length of time such transactions have passed through their books, and a rough estimate might be given of the number of purchasers of poisonous compounds upon the books. I shall be pleased to supply a "poison book" gratis to all agents for the purpose of registering the signatures and addresses of buyers. The cost of the licence has not yet been fixed, but when the amount is known and the local authority empowered to grant licences fixed, my travellers will be empowered to discuss the position with agents, and no doubt some amicable arrangements can be made to place the sale of ——— on a sound footing under the new conditions as between manufacturer and agent.

In the three months which will elapse before the Statute is enforced much will be done on both sides, but the most important thing will be the regulations which the Privy Council are to issue as to the granting of licences and the conditions upon which unqualified retailers may hold them. There will be time enough to act when these are known, but we suggest that chemists should now look around and estimate the possibilities in their districts for themselves, as well as for licensed vendors, under Clause 2.

Too Previous.

In spite of all that is said about the title "pharmacist" being a bad one for chemists and druggists, two instances have come to us this week of its use by Minor men consequent upon the Bill now before Parliament. One is a new start, the other a chemist who has been long in business. This is a trifle too previous.

The Medical Directory,

which is published by Messrs. J. & A. Churchill (14*s*. net), has appeared this week, the new volume being the sixty-fifth annual issue. The directory is a useful one for reference by chemists who frequently are asked regarding the qualification of medical men and particularly those with a consulting practice. The list of doctors is divided into those in London, the provinces, Wales and Monmouthshire, Scotland, Ireland, and in foreign countries. Separate sections are devoted to medical men in the army, military and Indian services, and there is a partial list of dentists. This does not exhaust the list of contents; full particulars, for instance, are given of all hospitals and dispensaries in London and the provinces, and the Acts of Parliament affecting medical practitioners are ably summarised. From the numerical summary we note that there are 39,992 names in the directory, an increase of 289 over the previous year. This is the smallest annual increase for many years.

Protected Prices.

The working of the price-protection scheme of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association in Great Britain has been beneficial to retailers and wholesalers, in so far as it has stopped the sagging of profits that had been going on steadily for years before the P.A.T.A. was started. We do not know how much in £ *s. d.* this has meant to retailers. The articles on the P.A.T.A. list are counted by hundreds, but we question if they represent more than 10 per cent. of the total sales of proprietaries. Taking them at that, and the basis of calculation the sale of medicine-stamps yearly—that is, 325,000*l.* worth—if we reckon the increased profit as the price of the stamp, we have 325,000*l.* a year as the P.A.T.A. benefit to the retailer. It may be much less, still it is something very material. We receive occasionally—*e.g.*, twice within the past two months—complaints from retailers about the prices of P.A.T.A. articles

being cut below the minimum in their districts. We have investigated both and found that this is due to co-operative societies, whose source of supply cannot be traced, and as to which the P.A.T.A. gets little local assistance. The circumstances appear to require a considerable exercising of patience on the part of those who have to meet prices which are unremunerative, but we are glad to hear that in the case of the more recent complaint matters are drawing towards a settlement. In view of the material interests involved this can be regarded as assuring, and it is hoped that a final announcement will shortly be made. Another point in this connection is brought to our notice by a travelling correspondent (145/66), who writes as follows:

Is it fair for chemists to purchase protected articles to sell again to their neighbours in the trade under the prices which they and the wholesale houses agree not to cut? I suggest that they are breaking the very agreements which all in the trade, wholesale and retail, are anxious to obtain. I have no doubt that most of the retailers have not looked at the question from this point of view, but the fact remains, and I should very much like to learn the views of others on this most important subject.

This question has, we believe already been tackled by the P.A.T.A., which objects to goods on the list being sold by wholesale under the published terms, and this applies equally to co-operative methods adopted by retailers. The present time appears to be a particularly sensitive one for all these questions, whether by P.A.T.A. or private methods, and the chief object of this note is to call for a halt in the present tendency to throw away profits which are provided by manufacturers.

Methylated Hair-washes.

It is well known that the Board of Inland Revenue have always jealously controlled the use of methylated spirit, and have prohibited it being employed in making preparations capable of being used internally. The late Mr. E. N. Alpe gave, as instances in which permission would not be granted, (1) a tincture of aloes, (2) a liniment of capsicum and camphor, and (3) a hair-dressing. Since the introduction of industrial methylated spirit the old regulations have been somewhat modified, and there are now on the market some cheap hair-washes which are made with the spirit. We wrote to the Board about the matter at the beginning of the month, and have now received the following reply:

Inland Revenue, Somerset House, London, W.C.,
December 10th, 1908.

E. 11827. 1908.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to inform you that it is their practice to sanction the receipt of industrial alcohol for the manufacture of certain kinds of hair-washes, including dry shampoos. Each formula, however, is dealt with on its merits, and specific application for permission to so use the spirit must be made in every instance.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

E. C. CUNNINGHAM.

Assistant Secretary.

The Editor, "The Chemist and Druggist."

Our readers are aware that persons authorised to receive industrial methylated spirit must provide for it a specially constructed lock-up cage or cupboard, but this is no inconvenience. It is possible to take wider advantage of the concession than is done, and the best course is to submit to the local supervisor copies of the formulas which are desired to be compounded with industrial methylated spirit. In no case should any preparation be made with the spirit until the sanction of the Board is expressly obtained.

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL'S MINUTES for November 28 contain the text of the report of the Unqualified Practice Prevention Committee (208 pages), which gives a digest of the medical laws of the British Empire and foreign countries.

Expressed Mustard Oil.

By C. T. Bennett, B.Sc., A.I.C., F.C.S.

A QUANTITY of mustard oil recently imported from India has been found to consist principally of sesame oil. It is paler in colour than the genuine oil expressed in England, and gives a well-marked violet colour with Tocher's test. The oil in question has the following characters:

Specific gravity	0.917
Acid-number	13.9
Saponification-number	182.6
Iodine-number	101.5
Melting-point of fatty acids	26° C.

According to "Squire's Companion" and other books of reference the Indian mustard-seed is derived from *Brassica juncea*, and the oil has been examined by Le Sueur and Crossley ("J.S.C.I.," November 30, 1898).

Lewkowitsch gives the following figures for the various mustard and rape oils, and the figures for sesame oil are included for comparison:

Oil of	S.G.	Sapon. No.	Iodine No.	M.P. of Fatty Acids
Black Mustard (<i>Brassica nigra</i>)	0.916-0.920	174	96-110	16° C.
White Mustard (<i>Brassica alba</i>)	0.914-0.916	170-174	92-97	15°-16° C.
Rape (<i>Brassica campestris</i>)	0.913-0.917	170-179	94-102	16°-19° C.
Hedge Mustard (<i>Raphanus Raphanistrum</i>)	0.9175	174	105	—
<i>Brassica juncea</i> (Le Sueur)	0.920	180.1	103.29	—
Sesame (<i>Sesamum indicum</i>)	0.923	189-193	103-108	26°-32° C.

Judging by the colour-reaction and the high melting-point of the fatty acids it would appear that the oil in question contains about 75 per cent. of sesame oil, and the high acid-value (equal to 6.9 per cent. oleic acid) shows that an oil of very low grade has been used. This is to be expected, as good sesame oil has a greater money value than mustard oil.

My thanks are due to Mr. H. E. Watts for analytical assistance, and to Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney, Ltd., in whose laboratory the work was carried out.

College Notes.

LONDON COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The 1909 syllabus of this College contains twelve half-page illustrations, which, with the appended descriptions, show the many facilities provided for pharmaceutical students. Details are given of the day and evening courses for the Minor and Major, as also particulars of tuition for the Apothecaries' Assistants' examination. The necessary books and apparatus, the best routes for reaching the College, and aid in obtaining suitable apartments are other useful points included among the information given.

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The students of this College visited the works of the British Oxygen Co., Ltd., on December 8. A good attendance listened to a full and interesting explanation of the stages in the separation of oxygen from the atmosphere by the Linde process. Among other operations witnessed were the annealing and testing of the gas-cylinders, the cutting and welding of thick iron plates by means of the oxy-hydrogen blowpipe-flame, and the manufacture of liquid air. The plant for making oxygen by Brisis process was also inspected, but it had not been working during the last two years, since it could not compete with the German process.

The following educational institutions are advertising in this issue:

Muter's (South London) School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, London, S.E.

London College of Pharmacy, 323 Clapham Road, London, S.W.

Highbury New Park College, Highbury, London, N.

City of London College, White Street and Ropemaker Street, Moorfields, E.C.

Bath and West of England College of Pharmacy, 6 Cleveland Place East, Bath.

Liverpool School of Pharmacy, 18 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

Poisons and Pharmacy Bill.

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE SECOND READING ON DECEMBER 3.

(Continued from page 909.)

Mr. B. S. Straus (Tower Hamlets, Mile End) thought there were certain provisions in this Bill which ought to be amended before it became an Act. Although the increase of the drug-habit was enormous in this and all other countries, this Bill would not do much to interfere with it. It simply made it illegal that certain things should be sold except by a chemist, but the whole mischief was the way in which the latter could sell articles which were injurious to health. He was not sure that there was not greater harm in the drug habit than in the drink habit, but both were so harmful that it lay upon members of this House to do everything they could to prevent the sale of them. There was an article sold to-day which was called chlorodyne which was labelled "Poison." When he was chairman of one of the largest asylums in London a poor creature was brought there who had taken large quantities of this mixture, very much to her detriment. He asked her how she got the stuff, and she said that it was true it was labelled "Poison," but she could go into a chemist's, and although he would only sell her one bottle she could go on to other chemists and get more, even to the extent of half-a-dozen bottles. Although the dose was only two or three drops, she had taken two or three teaspoonfuls, two or three times a day, and of course it had the effect, which most of these things had, of turning her brain. He was hoping that the Government would introduce into a Bill of this kind a provision making it impossible for the general public to get drugs of a dangerous character with the ease they now could. What often happened was that a patient got a doctor's prescription for morphia or some other drug of that character, and although it might be years old it was hawked about from chemist to chemist, and what was an excellent thing for the complaint the patient was suffering from at the time proved most dangerous when it was taken permanently. The chemist said that although the prescription was two or three years old he would supply one bottle of it, and he could not do more. Then very often the person producing the prescription said he was going to the South of France, or for a sea voyage, and he should like half-a-dozen bottles, and very often he got it. He knew the case of a person who had a prescription for chloral in rather heavy doses, and he had a great deal of trouble in getting a large quantity of it at a time, but the Army and Navy Stores supplied half-a-dozen bottles on the plea that he was going yachting to Norway and Sweden. The person who obtained that quantity, he need not inform the House, was not any better for it when he came back. He was hoping that it would be quite possible for the Government to insert some clause to make it absolutely necessary that a doctor, in giving a prescription of a dangerous character which contained a poison, should affix a date, and make it impossible for a chemist to dispense that dangerous drug after a month had elapsed. This was not merely his own opinion, but from repeated conversations with eminent medical men of this country he knew that would be popular with the healing profession. The danger was now being rather accentuated by the putting-up of most dangerous drugs in compressed or tabloid form, and people were using them because they could get them so easily. He had said before, and he said again, that he believed the love of drink was as bad as that for drugs, and if they could get an opportunity of doing away with this traffic it was their duty to do so, and he believed that no measure would be more useful to the community than one which would make it more difficult to get the drugs which were so popular among the drug-taking fraternity. He entirely agreed with the last speaker as regarded the naming of the authority which should have this important duty put upon it under the Bill. He thought it should not be left to an Order in Council, but ought to be decided by the Government. He congratulated the parties to this dispute on coming to a fair compromise, but he did hope, before the Bill became an Act, some clause

would be inserted which would make it more difficult for the drug-taking population to secure drugs, so that they should not get them with the same amount of ease with which they could get them now. Although it might not be known, he was sure that a very large portion of the misery and disease which certain classes of our population were suffering from to-day was owing to having taken, at some time in their lives, drugs which did not show the bad effects at once; and in regard to the well-being of our people no measure would be of greater or wider use for the benefit of all than a measure which would restrict the facilities for getting these dangerous compounds. He did not think it was necessary for him to say anything more, except to again ask the Government to insert the local authority that should have this particular important duty cast upon it of giving a certificate to the person who might dispense these articles, and not leave it simply to the machinery of an Order in Council, under which different authorities might be named. He also hoped the Government would see their way to put something in the Bill to prevent the sale of those articles which were eating and sapping away the lives of our people.

Mr. Dillon (Mayo, E.) said it was quite correct that Clause 2 of this Bill made the sale of poisonous substances more free, but those who objected ignored apparently the exact state of the facts. All over large tracts of country the law, as it was at present, was set at defiance, and had been for years set at defiance. He did not so much mean set at defiance as broken by general consent, owing to the enormous necessity for the supply of those drugs. What was the position? Hon. members who lived in the country knew perfectly well that there were large districts in Ireland where the town was so small that a properly qualified druggist and chemist could not exist. Were they going to say to the poorer farmers in such districts that they should not be allowed to get sheep-dip and preparations of that kind? A substance which had not been mentioned, but which he thought ought to be mentioned, was sulphate of copper. There were hundreds of tons needed where no chemist was likely to have it. Sulphate of copper was required for spraying potatoes, and it was sold in every store and in every country town. The result had been that in large districts of the country this Act of 1868 had been for many years a dead letter, and these necessary poisons were sold for the convenience of everybody. It was recognised by everyone that convenience must override the law. He was stating what was an absolute fact; and, therefore, he thought the Government were perfectly right in bringing the law into harmony with the facts of the case. He thought the Government, so far from curtailing the rights given under Section 2, ought to extend them to all those substances which were commonly used by the country people for the destruction of fungi, or for sheep-dips, or spraying potatoes or fruit-trees. He thought all these ought to be included under Section 2, and it ought not to be left to the Lord-Lieutenant in Council to investigate this question. What was the use of leaving upon the Lord-Lieutenant to inquire whether sulphate of copper was useful when everybody knew it was? Clause 2 was an absolute necessity for the convenience of the rural districts, and in these districts cases of poisoning were exceedingly rare. Whenever there was a case it was generally rat-poison that was used, and seldom anything else. Clause 2 did not apply to rat-poison or any thing containing strychnine. He thought it was necessary, and hoped the Government would stick to it.

Captain Craig (Down, E.) said that owing to this Bill being thrust at them at short notice it was very difficult for some of them who were interested in the subject, and who represented another part of Ireland to that which was represented by the hon. member who had just sat down, to deal with the subject. At the same time, they were entrusted with the task of trying to elicit from the Minister in charge of the Bill what compromise had been concluded

with regard to the chemists and druggists in Ireland. He understood from the new clause read out that it only referred to chemists and druggists in England and Scotland, but anyone who turned to the end of the Bill would see that a certain portion of it did extend to Ireland, and he understood that great dissatisfaction had been evinced among certain sections of the chemists in that country with regard to Clauses 2 and 3. The Under-Secretary, in reading out the new clause, made no mention whatever of how it would be affected by Clause 7 of this Bill, which said that the provisions of this Act relative to the regulation and sale of certain poisonous substances for agricultural and horticultural purposes, and to restrictions on sale of certain mineral acids, should apply to Ireland with certain modifications. Clause 2 dealt chiefly with the poisons which were used in the production of agricultural articles—sheep-dip, and so on—and it would be found there that so much of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, as made it an offence for any person to sell or keep open a shop for the sale of poisons, unless he was a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist, and conformed to the regulations under Section 1 of that Act, should not apply to poisonous substances containing certain materials, such as arsenic, tobacco, or alkaloids of tobacco, to be used exclusively in agriculture or horticulture. Clause 2 was rather obscure, in so far that the Act to which it referred, the Act of 1868, had twenty-eight clauses, and in considering Clause 2 of this Bill it was necessary to go through the whole of the Act of 1868 to see what portion of it referred to the sale of these poisons, which, taken by itself, was a matter of considerable labour, but which, in the circumstances under which this Bill was introduced, was an absolute impossibility. He would like to ask: Was Ireland included in the compromise referred to?

Mr. Herbert Samuel said the later clause affecting chemists and druggists did not affect Ireland.

Captain Craig replied that if that were so a large section of the chemists of Ireland thoroughly objected to this Bill. He had understood that some arrangement had been come to by which Clause 3 would be extended to Ireland. If that was so, it would be acceptable to the chemists. The only part of this Bill which referred to Ireland was Clause 2 and that part of Clause 6 which referred to Clause 2 which referred solely to the sale of articles connected with agriculture and horticulture. If only Clause 2 was applicable to Ireland, he would like to ask whether there was anything in this Bill to allow the sale to be extended to those who were connected solely with horticulture and agriculture in Ireland. There was a grievance which touched these great seedsmen and rose-growers and fruit-growers, having the right to sell the various articles enumerated in Clause 2, which affected their particular branch of horticulture. They had an expert knowledge in the cure of the various diseases from which fruit-trees and other things suffered. In the readjustment of this Bill, before it came to the Committee stage he hoped the Government would make some arrangement whereby these large and established firms would be able to sell these articles, which they were able from their expert knowledge to certify was the best remedy for the disease to which he had referred. He would like to know also whether it was not the fact that certain restrictions were to be put on those who had sold these potato-sprays and sheep-dips in Ireland, because in some of the out-of-the-way districts in Ireland some restriction ought to be put in force. The danger in those districts was not where these things were sold in packets, but where they were supplied in smaller quantities, where packets were broken up, perhaps by a small child of the shopkeeper, in which case some of this poisonous material might be left on the counter in close proximity to food and other articles of consumption. He had been told that the restriction to be placed on the sale of these articles would take the line that they would not be allowed to be sold in any shop where food or drink was sold. But whether that suggestion had been accepted by the Government he had not been informed. The hon. member for East Mayo had spoken quite truly when he had stated that in certain out-of-the-way parts of Ireland there was not a certified chemist within reasonable distance. But even where there was, the prices charged by the registered chemist for these articles were much higher than those sold by the druggist. Co-

operative societies also had sprung up and grown rapidly in Ireland during the past few years, and they claimed a right to be allowed to sell these articles, done up in tins, bottles, or parcels, in their particular localities. Although the Bill, so far as Clause 2 was concerned, was of as much interest as to any other part of the United Kingdom, not one word in the course of two hours' discussion had been said by Ministers as to how it affected Ireland. He really thought that the Vice-President of the Board of Education, who, he understood, had charge of that part of the Bill, should have been in his place and given the House some enlightenment on that matter. He did not oppose the Bill and should not divide against the second reading, but unless some explanation was given he hoped some of his friends would oppose it and insist on the Vice-President of the Board of Education being sent for immediately.

Mr. Charles Craig (Antrim, S.) said he agreed that it was most undesirable that these preparations sold for the purposes of agriculture should continue to be sold by persons in defiance of the law. But there was another class they must think of at the same time—namely, those people who had the right to sell these sheep-dips and potato-spraying mixtures to agriculturists, and who had actually been disposing of them in various districts for many years. It would be a very serious thing, when this Bill passed, if anybody might be allowed to sell these commodities in their immediate neighbourhood. It would be an interference with what had been an undoubted monopoly of qualified persons—a monopoly which they had enjoyed for many years, and out of which, no doubt, they had made a very good income. There was no doubt that such persons ought to be considered. He was not content to leave the matter entirely to the local authority, especially as they had not been informed what that local authority was, the absolute right to say whether or not any person should be allowed to sell these things. He was sorry to say that no matter what the measure was, if it applied to Ireland, politics and religion were sure to enter into its administration. And he could quite realise the case in which a local authority, say a rural district council, if it were fixed upon as the authority who was to have the administration of this Act, might decide that a certain individual should have the right to sell these materials, and so perhaps pay off an old score against the person who up to then had been the only one who had the right to sell these commodities. There should be some stringent provisions for regulating this part of the measure. He thought also that where an individual was refused a licence he ought to have the right of appeal to some other tribunal which he might consider more impartial than the local authority. He objected very strongly to the extensive powers which were left in the hands of the Privy Council. There was the further objection that the regulations which they framed were to be laid on the table of the House, so that there might be an opportunity of considering them. So far as that safeguard was concerned it might as well be left out of the Bill altogether. As had been pointed out by hon. gentlemen on his side of the House, everything that was done under the Bill was handed over *en bloc* to the Privy Council. They had become accustomed to this kind of legislation; none the less he thought that it was extremely harmful and retrograde. There were many things in these subsections which he was firmly convinced ought to be kept in the hands of the House. For instance, the regulations as regarded the granting of licences, he thought that the House, and not the Privy Council ought to lay down the various classes of persons to whom these licences should be given. He certainly thought the House should fix definitely what the local authority was to be which should have the carrying out of the Act. He desired that the Bill should pass into law, because in theory, at any rate, there was nothing contentious about it, but he would ask the right hon. gentleman again to consider before the Committee stage whether he could not, with the assistance of the draughtsman who had so skillfully drafted that gem of draughtsmanship, sub-clause (a) of Clause 6, a gem in the way of legislation by reference, include this compromise which had been arrived at on Clause 3. This was a very excellent opportunity of trying to clear up the differences and difficulties which had existed quite as much in Ireland as in this country. It was hardly reasonable

to complain of the non-attendance of any Minister in answer to the Irish end of this Bill, but at any rate they had a grievance, inasmuch as they had no one on that Bench who could give them any information whatever with reference to what it was intended to do on these various points which applied to Ireland alone. He hoped the right hon. gentleman would give them ample time, before the Bill went into Committee, to communicate with interested parties and formulate amendments, and that there would be full discussion in Committee and on Report.

Mr. Herbert Samuel said most of the points which had been raised were such as could only be settled in Committee, and it was obviously impossible for him to discuss them to-day. With regard to the general principle of Clause 2, it was one of the most important clauses in the Bill. The purpose of that clause was not to impose restrictions on the sale of weed-killers and sheep-dips to farmers, but, as he said in moving the second reading, to enable agriculturists and horticulturists to get those articles which contained poisons more freely than they were now able legally to do. Ironmongers and others who now sold those commodities did so illegally, and were liable to prosecution at any time. Although in recent years few prosecutions had taken place, yet between 1896 and 1901 there were 749 prosecutions by the Pharmaceutical Society, mainly in cases of this character. In some parts of England the sale of these articles was restricted absolutely through those prosecutions. Under the Bill persons who sold these commodities were to be registered and were to conform to the requirements of the Act.

Viscount Helmsley asked if the restriction would apply to the sale of patent medicines which were specially excluded from the Act of 1868.

Mr. Herbert Samuel said they did not come within the purview of the clause. Clause 2 dealt only with those commodities which were used for agriculture, and which contained particular poisons as ingredients, such as arsenic, tobacco, and alkaloids of tobacco. Patent medicines would come under the general Pharmaceutical Acts. The precarious position of the present sellers of these poisonous materials for agricultural purposes was to be dealt with. On the one hand, it was obvious that they ought to extend the existing facilities. He thought that all members of the House must agree to that. Even the member for the Scottish Universities, when he came to consider the matter more closely, especially if he read the report of the Departmental Committee of 1902, could not fail to come to that conclusion. On the other hand, it would be very unadvisable to throw open the sale of poisonous materials, some of them very poisonous, to all and sundry without any restriction at all. Therefore they proposed to require a double check. One was that the local authority should license the trader who was to sell these materials, so that only persons of repute who could be properly trusted to take precautions should get these licences; and, secondly, these poisonous materials were only to be sold in accordance with the regulations which were to be made by Order in Council for the safeguard of their storage and use.

An. Hon. Member : What local authority?

Mr. Herbert Samuel : The local authority was to be determined by Order in Council, but it would be carefully considered whether it would be possible to insert a precise designation of the local authority in the Bill. He would consider with his right hon. friend the President of the Privy Council on this matter. This was not a Home Office Bill; it was a Privy Council Bill, and he was speaking, not as Under-Secretary for the Home Office, but as representative in that House of that Department. The hon. member for Mayo said that this Clause 2 ought to be enlarged, and that the poisons which were specified there should be added to, and he mentioned one or two materials which were sold for use in agriculture. By an Order in Council other materials at any time might be brought into use for other purposes, and added under Clause 2 of the Bill. He hoped that he had made it quite clear that it was not intended to restrict farmers in obtaining these articles, but to enable them to do so, and this had been warmly welcomed by Chambers of Commerce throughout the country. The hon. member for Blackpool brought up the question of morphia. This Bill did not make a change in the law, but it took morphia out of Part II. of the Schedule of the Phar-

macy Act of 1868, and put it into Part I. It might be said that the whole of the Pharmacy Acts ought to be amended so as to greatly increase the restrictions on substances such as these. That was a question which ought to be dealt with after inquiry and with the aid of expert knowledge, but restrictions of the existing law which applied to deadly poisons, like prussic acid for example, would be applied to the sale of morphia. The hon. member had asked him how far the Bill applied to Ireland, and whether the compromise arrived at with regard to Clause 3 would extend to that country. Ireland has its own code of Pharmacy Acts, and the Pharmacy Acts which they were amending did not apply to Ireland at all. They had their own Orders in Council made by the Irish Privy Council. His right hon. friend did not originally intend to apply the Bill to Ireland; but there was a great desire on the part of Irish agriculturists that Clause 2 should be extended to their country, and it was in accordance with that desire that that extension was made. Clause 5, which dealt with comparatively small points, also applied to Ireland, according to the desire of Irish agriculturists. Clause 3, which dealt with the vexed question of drug-stores and companies who were chemists and druggists, did not apply to Ireland, and communications consequently had not passed between the Government and the chemists and druggists of Ireland as in England. It would be difficult—he did not say impossible—to adapt the Irish Pharmacy Acts to the purposes of this Bill. It would mean legislation by reference of a complicated kind. But if it was desired that Clause 3 should apply to Ireland, he should be happy to take representations on the point into consideration. There had been communications with the Irish Government, but he was not convinced that there was the same agreement in Ireland as in England with regard to Clause 3. He need hardly say, however, that if there was a general desire among Irish representatives that the clause should be extended to Ireland, with the necessary modifications, of course, the Government would be very glad indeed to do all in its power to meet their wishes. The Government's own desire was to arrive at a general agreement of this character. The adaptation to this particular Bill of the Irish Pharmacy Acts would be a matter of much complexity, and hon. members must not complain if the clause consisted of legislation by reference of a somewhat complicated character; that would be inevitable. The noble lord the member for Chorley had asked how far there was a real compromise, and had suggested that the compromise was on the basis of a vague conversation which might break down. When the Government drafted the clause it was submitted to various parties. He held in his hand three letters with reference to this matter. He submitted the clause as proposed by the Government to the organised representatives of the various parties, and he had a communication from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain saying that they would agree to the clause as it would stand when amendments were inserted; and he had a letter from the Companies Chemists' Association, which included the Army and Navy Stores, the Junior Army and Navy, Harrod's, Spiers & Pond's, Boots' Cash Chemists, and all the other protagonists in this fight, and also a letter from the Co-operative Union, which represented the co-operative societies of England and Wales. The whole of these bodies unanimously accepted without any reservation whatever the clause as it would be amended by the Government proposals. The hon. member for Inverness had suggested that the House should have an opportunity to consider the precise terms of the compromise. He would hand in amendments to-night in order that they might appear on the Order Paper to-morrow, and in ample time for the Committee stage. He thought that this Bill, which was of a technical and detailed character, would properly be dealt with by a Standing Committee rather than by the Committee of the whole House. He had no doubt that the Standing Committee would consider it in a spirit of goodwill and with a desire to pass the Bill. It was a measure which raised no element of party controversy. He thought that all sections of the House desired to see an end put to this long-standing dispute, and he trusted that, as this Bill had already passed the House of Lords, before very many days had elapsed it would have passed through that House.

The question was then put and agreed to, and the Bill read a second time and committed to a Standing Committee.

Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representatives.)

POISONS AND PHARMACY BILL.

In the House of Commons on Thursday afternoon, December 17, this Bill was third on the orders, and when it was reached Sir William Collins moved to insert after "dispensers" in Clause 4, page 4, line 28, the words

"or certified assistants to apothecaries under the Apothecaries Act 1815."

He said that Army medical dispensers are included under this clause, and they ought not therefore to exclude those people who have passed examinations no less severe than those of the qualified military dispensers. In a recent Act passed in the Isle of Man these chemists [apothecaries' assistants] had been included. He believed there was no opposition to his amendment.

Mr. Herbert Samuel: I have no objection to this amendment, and have much pleasure in accepting it.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Herbert Samuel then moved an amendment providing that the Act shall come into force on April 1, 1909, instead of January 1, 1909. He said that certain arrangements had to be made by the various people interested in the Bill, and this extension was designed to give them time to make these arrangements.

The amendment was agreed to, and the Bill was read a third time.

The whole proceedings did not occupy more than two minutes.

The Bill now goes up to the House of Lords for agreement with the amendments made by the Commons, and it will in all likelihood receive the Royal Assent by Saturday, December 19.

WHITE PHOSPHORUS MATCHES PROHIBITION BILL.

This Bill, which has already passed the House of Commons, passed through Committee in the Upper Chamber on Monday evening, it being in charge of Earl Beauchamp, who represents the Home Office there.

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM.

The Secretary of State for India has promised Mr. H. Belloc (S. Salford, L.) to ask the Governor of Bombay whether he can give the amount of opium shipped from that port during 1906, the names of the six largest shippers of the same, and the respective amount shipped by each.

HOP LEGISLATION.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday afternoon, in reply to Mr. Dundas White, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that he was not prepared to appoint a Departmental Committee to inquire into the working of the Adulteration of Hops Act, 1733, as the matter had already been considered by the Select Committee on the Hop Industry.

THE OPIUM COMMISSION.

It was officially announced in the House of Commons on Tuesday afternoon that the terms of reference of the International Opium Commission, which is to meet in Shanghai in February next, are, *inter alia*, to advise means as to limiting the use of opium in the possessions of the British Crown, and to ascertain the best method of suppressing the traffic—if such now exists—among the Nationals of the Government in the Far East. At the same time the Under-Secretary for the Colonies informed Mr. T. C. Taylor, M.P., that the report of the Straits Opium Commission has just been received, and that it will be laid on the table in due course; that the recommendations of the Governor of Hong-Kong in regard to the opium dens in that city are now under the consideration of the Government; and that correspondence on the subject will be laid before Parliament in due course.

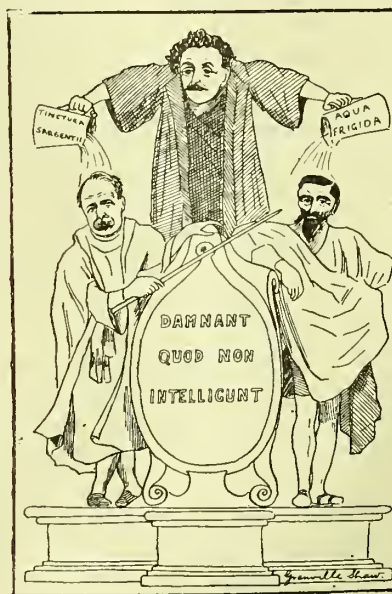
THE MIDWIVES ACT.

The Lord President of the Council has appointed a Departmental Committee to consider the working of the Midwives Act, and in particular with reference to the supply of midwives and the cost of training, the remuneration of medical men summoned on the advice of midwives

under the rules in pursuance of the Act, and the delegation of their powers by County Councils under the Act. The Chairman of the Committee is Mr. Almeric W. FitzRoy, Clerk of the Council, and the members are: Mrs. Charles Hobhouse, Mr. J. S. Davy, C.B., assistant secretary, Local Government Board, Dr. A. H. Downes, medical inspector for Poor-law purposes, Local Government Board, Dr. F. H. Champneys, Chairman of the Central Midwives Board, and Mr. John Pedder, a principal clerk in the Home Office. Mr. H. J. Stanley, private secretary to the Lord President, and Mr. F. J. Welch, staff clerk in the Local Government Board, will act as joint secretaries.

ALLOWANCES ON EXPORTED SPIRITS.

Sir G. Kekewich (Exeter, Min.) on December 7 asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether an allowance or bounty to the amount of 3d. to 5d. per gallon is still paid by the State on whisky and other British spirits exported from this country; and, if so, whether the export of spirituous liquors was the only bounty-fed export from the United Kingdom, what was the total sum per annum paid as bounty, and what was the reason that the trade in spirituous liquors enjoyed such exceptional advantages and protection. The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Lloyd George) replied: No bounty is paid upon the export of British spirits from this country. An allowance of 3d. per gallon is granted on British plain spirits on exportation, as an equivalent to the British distiller for the cost to him of the requirements and restrictions imposed by the Revenue laws and regulations in connection with his plant and methods of manufacture. A further allowance of 2d. —i.e. 5d. in all—is granted on British compounds in consideration of the loss due to the manufacture being required by law to be carried on with duty-paid spirits on premises distinct from those of a distiller. These allowances are granted in order to put the British distiller on an equality with the foreign distiller, who is not hampered to the same degree by the Revenue laws of his country. The sum paid as allowances on the exportation of spirits (plain and compound) for the year ended March 31, 1908, was 113,807l.



THE WEST RIDING DIPLOMA.

The College of Heraldry is not responsible for the description, which reads:

ARMS.—A sparklet or, devoid of the stag (fled), dove (flown), serpent (crawled away), aloe (withered), alembic (burst), and scales (unstamped). SUPPORTERS.—Avicenna Rymer on the left, indifferent. CREST[Fallen].—A Pilkington on a field [s]argent pouring a libation to the gods. MOTTO: "Don't give 'em a chance."

Pharmaceutical Society.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

AN evening meeting was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, December 16, Mr. J. P. Gil-mour (Chairman of the Executive) presiding. Mr. J. RUTHERFORD HILL read the first paper, which was by Mr. John Lothian.

ICHTHYOL-RESORCIN SOAP.

In his notes the author stated that in washing the hands with this soap and hot water the ichthyol separates in leathery or rubbery particles, and if the soap is dissolved in hot water a flaky deposit is formed on standing, with numerous somewhat spindle-shaped particles that appear to be insoluble. Ichthyol-salicylic acid soap always behaved perfectly, the ichthyol being in solution. This indicates that the insoluble particles are due to reaction between ichthyol and resorcin, or possibly all three ingredients play a part. No ammonia was found in the soap, and it was pretty evident that sodium ichthyolate and not ammonium ichthyolate had been used in its manufacture. It seems doubtful whether ichthyol-disulphonic acid is an invariable substance. It is precipitated from its soluble salts by mineral acids in a resinous form, but whether oleic acid or the oleates have any such effect has not been ascertained. It is proposed further to examine the matter and report.

Mr. DOTT said he had observed that in preparing ichthyol-zinc jelly the ichthyol had a tendency to separate in flakes. He suggested that some excess of alkali might be required to keep it in solution.

Mr. DUNCAN imagined that the separation was more a case of hydrolysis than anything else, much the same way as with quinine acetate, in a large quantity of water.

Mr. COWIE asked if it was not more likely to be due to the presence of some bacteria. An enzyme might have the same effect as in the case of gelatin pesaries.

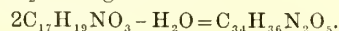
Mr. HILL remarked that the spindle-shaped bodies were very peculiar, but their nature has not been determined. Mr. Lothian had mentioned in a subsequent letter that in using the soap he noticed that the surface was rough and covered with little black insoluble particles. He thought the bodies were far too large to be bacteria.

The CHAIRMAN said that obviously further observation is required, and they hoped Mr. Lothian, with the co-operation of other members, might continue the research and report to a future meeting.

A NOTE ON APOMORPHINE HYDROCHLORIDE

was next read by Mr. D. B. DOTT, Ph.C., F.I.C. Matthies-sen and Wright, who first prepared apomorphine by the reaction of hydrochloric acid on morphine at 100° C., gave the formula $C_{17}H_{17}NO_2$ for the new base, deciding from their analyses that it differed from morphine in composition by the elements of water being removed. Wright afterwards proposed to double the formula, but the original expression has been generally accepted. E. Schmidt, in a recent note, affirmed that the salts lose weight at 100° C. equal to from 3.61 to 3.95 per cent., and Schmidt also remarked that the results did not correspond either with the formula $2C_{17}H_{17}NO_2.HCl + H_2O$ nor with the formula $C_{17}H_{17}NO_2.HCl + H_2O$, the former requiring 2.88 and the latter 5.59 per cent. H_2O . The author's sample of the hydrochloride was an old one, and he recrystallised it from hot water, rendering the solution distinctly acid. The salt was well drained and dried in the air at ordinary temperature. The hydrochloride so obtained lost 5.21 per cent. in the water bath. By precipitation with silver nitrate, nitric acid being added after precipitating, the average HCl calculated from the silver chloride was 11.08 per cent. on the air-dry salt and 11.68 per cent. on the salt-dried in water-bath. On drying at higher temperatures in the air-bath there is appreciable loss of HCl, and the salt becomes green by oxidation. As the formula generally accepted requires 12.02 per cent. HCl, it is evidently not correct. It might then be assumed that the salt normally contains the molecule H_2O , half of which is lost in the water-bath; more correctly that two molecules retain one of water when dried at 100° C. $C_{17}H_{17}NO_2.HCl.H_2O$ gives 11.35 per cent. HCl.

If half the water were lost at 100° C., the percentage loss would be 2.88 per cent., and the percentage of HCl in the dried salt 11.68. But the numbers found agree better with the formula $C_{34}H_{36}N_2O_2.2HCl.2H_2O$. This formula requires 5.44 per cent. water and 11.04 per cent. HCl. The author suggested that it is more probable than that originally ascribed. They assumed that apomorphine was formed by condensation of two molecules of morphine, one molecule of H_2O being eliminated:



In an ultimate analysis the percentage of carbon required by the old formula was 76.4; by that proposed, 73.9; while the corresponding percentages of hydrogen are 6.36 and 6.52. The subject requires further investigation, but he thought the probabilities are in his favour.

Mr. DUNCAN said he noticed that in the new "Squire" just to hand some work had been done in taking the solubilities of apomorphine, and the author maintained that it absorbed 3 per cent. of hygroscopic water. That might be, as Mr. DOTT said, water of crystallisation. He had noticed that alkaloidal hydrochlorides lose acid very distinctly and become more basic when heated, though only when over 100° C. to 110° C. or 120° C.

Mr. COWIE's experience was that it is difficult to keep solutions of apomorphine hydrochloride colourless except by using freshly made distilled water free from ammonia.

Mr. HILL thought Mr. DOTT's paper was more than usually interesting, because it made a revolutionary proposal in regard to the constitution of apomorphine. He stated, however, that the matter requires further investigation, and did not lay down that particular formula as settled. Whether that is so or not, it will make investigators look into the matter very carefully, and it may lead to the transformation of the accepted formula.

Mr. DOTT, in reply, pointed out that it is not easy to say what is hygroscopic water, but the point does not affect his results, because he worked with the salt which had been dried on the water-bath. An apomorphine hydrochloride that is neutral or basic might more readily colour in solution, and the presence of ammonia or alkaline carbonate may have a similar effect.

The CHAIRMAN said that, according to the text-books, if apomorphine hydrochloride is dissolved with hydrochloric acid by heating in a test-tube, the liquid becomes green. That is not his experience when using an old test-tube, nor with a glazed porcelain basin.

Mr. DOTT, supplementing his reply, said some alkaloidal salts absorb moisture, but others distinctly effloresce and lose water till they reach a state of stable equilibrium. It is difficult to know when they have effloresced, and they must watch carefully till the salt is just dry, and then determine the actual percentage of water of crystallisation.

In a second note Mr. DOTT treated of a sample of

ADULTERATED RED-LEAD

which had been sent from England. The defective nature of the material had been observed by its failure to form a proper glaze on tiles. When treated with hot nitric acid, with sugar to prevent formation of peroxide, a large proportion remained undissolved, and this portion was proved to be sulphate of barium.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Barrie drew attention a few years ago to barium sulphate as an adulterant in calamine, and he himself had found it as an adulterant in saffron.

Mr. HILL pointed to this as a new field for barium sulphate as an adulterant, and the use of an aniline dye for faking. It seems to constitute an up-to-date adulteration. It is important that the attention of the public should be directed to such a fraud. It can be readily detected by shaking with alcohol, which produces a red tint. That is sufficient to condemn the sample. Another very ready way is to put a little of the powder on a spatula and put it on the edge of a Bunsen-burner flame, and the barium green is shown without very much difficulty.

SULPHUR COMPOUNDS IN GAS.

Following up the note on this subject by Mr. DOTT in the *C. & D.*, August 31, 1907, p. 377, Messrs. DOTT and DOUGALL now communicated observations on the constituents of coal-gas, which caused the leather cover of a chair to rot. They obtained indications of the presence of sulphurous acid,

but the point to which the paper was particularly devoted was the amount of sulphuric acid formed when the gas is burned. On one occasion they obtained 0.2 gram sulphuric acid from 130 cubic ft. Taking the consumption of gas in one year at 2,075,828,000 cubic ft., this would represent fully 3 tons of sulphuric acid produced by burning Edinburgh gas in a year. If they added the amount of sulphuric acid sent into the air by burning coal, the atmosphere of the city and neighbourhood must receive a large supply of this deleterious and corrosive compound. That a proportion of the sulphuric compounds could be kept back was evident from the fact that a considerable amount of sulphuric acid is found in the water of the meter. Water drawn from a wet meter where it had been for some time gave only a very slight indication of sulphate; but it took up and decolorised a large proportion of iodine, and gave strong reactions of hydrocyanic acid with the prussian-blue and ferric-sulphocyanide tests. Similarly, when a current of gas was passed through water containing magnesia, and hydrochloric acid added, a distinct odour of prussic acid was evolved, and the mixture gave the reactions like the water from the meter, though less distinctly. The acid and other impurities produced from a gas-stove in a year, if not carried off by a good draught, would be capable of causing a considerable amount of mischief, and had a damaging effect on interior furnishings.

Mr. DUNCAN said he could confirm Mr. Dott's statement that Edinburgh gas contains some sort of sulphur compounds. He had found that the copper fittings of incandescent-mantle burners become gradually coated with a crust, which seems to work its way into the mantle and destroy its luminosity. He had scraped the crust off, and found any amount of copper sulphate in it. This crust had probably fallen on to the mantle, and became reduced to copper oxide. He thought the sulphur is present in the gas as carbon bisulphide or some linked sulphur hydrocarbon compound.

Mr. COWIE said he had lately observed that a copper air-bath became heavily coated with an incrustation, while a water-bath in constant use was very little affected. The incrustation was chiefly sulphate. The attention of the gas authorities should be directed to this matter.

Mr. DRYERRE (Bonnyrigg) said the sulphur compounds in the gas are a source of trouble in his district. They are told a certain proportion is unavoidable, and he asked Mr. Dott what the allowable maximum should be.

Mr. GLASS wished to know if the presence of these sulphur compounds is really injurious to health. Quite a number of people are said to have been cured of whooping-cough by inhaling the fumes of burning sulphur. They should get pure gas, and the sulphur should be removed.

Mr. DUNCAN recalled that his grandmother took him and the other members of his family daily through a gas-works to cure them of whooping-cough.

Mr. C. F. HENRY said there is no doubt the quality of Edinburgh gas has deteriorated lately, and the amount of sulphuric gas given off must be deleterious to health. They get their gas fairly cheap, but if it generated these deleterious substances and causes ill-health, they should consider whether they are not paying too dear for their gas.

Mr. HILL recalled that a man who was attacked with lung-disease, and had lost one lung, was recommended to change his calling and go into a gas-works. He did so, and ultimately rose to be manager, and occupied the position for many years in perfect health. The ferric-hydrate method would not remove carbon bisulphide or sulphuretted hydrocarbons, and it seems that the purification processes require investigation. The use of incandescent mantles and more complete combustion of the gas favour the formation of sulphuric rather than sulphurous acid in burning the gas.

The CHAIRMAN said he had examined the Glasgow gas, and failed to find any trace of sulphuretted hydrogen. Hempel, in his "Gas-analysis," attributes the cause of the trouble to sulphur compounds, with hydrocarbons, forming sulphurous acid, which, in burning, turn into sulphuric acid. By means of potassium carbonate and bromine in a Bunsen burner they would be burned at once into sulphuric acid. The blackening of the mantles is due to carbon, which could be burned off.

Mr. DOTT left it to experts to say what is the allowable maximum of sulphur in coal-gas, but it should be the lowest

possible. Sulphide of calcium is generally used to remove carbon bisulphide, with which it forms a stable compound.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Dott for his papers.

The ASSISTANT-SECRETARY read a paper on

SOME DISPENSING PROBLEMS

by Mr. Gilbert Simpson, Ph.C. Some time ago he was asked how to proceed in dispensing the following:

Hydrarg. binodidi gr. j.

Fiant pilulæ viginti.

Sig.: Una ter in die sumenda.

The querist suggested that to dissolve the mercuric iodide in sufficient solution of potassium iodide would be the safer method; then mass with liquorice or some such fibrous substance. That method is bad, as it changed the medicinal ingredient from HgI_2 to $Hg_2K_2I_4$, which differs pharmacologically as well as chemically. He submitted that the pills should be prepared by direct trituration of dry mercuric iodide, especially since the dose suggested the administration of cationic divalent mercury, which is more potent than the anionic form into which it is changed by potassium iodide.

Phenolphthalein gr. ss.

Acid. salicylic. gr. iss.

Sodii oleat. gr. j.

Fiat pil. Mitte tales x.

In this case there was an oily separation due to double decomposition between the sodium oleate and salicylic acid, which difficulty might be overcome by massing the phenolphthalein and salicylic acid with anhydrous wool-fat, and then the sodium oleate in dry powder with the same excipient; mix the masses and stiffen with althæa or kaolin.

Quininae valerianat. gr. ij.

Caffeinae citrat. gr. ij.

Fiat pil. Mitte tales x.

Zinci valerianat. gr. iss.

Quininae valerianat. gr. iss.

Caffeinae citrat. gr. j.

Fiat pil. Mitte tales x.

Here also the double decomposition between citric acid liberated from caffeine citrate and valerianates may be obviated by massing the valerianates and caffeine citrate separately with wool-fat, mixing and stiffening with kaolin. The following phosphorus, bromine, and iodine mixture was recently in demand during a typhoid epidemic:

Phosphori gr. j.

Bromini gr. iij.

Iodi gr. v.

Syrupi ℥j.

Vini xerici ℥v.

Misce.

If the prescriber intended the patient to get free bromine, iodine, and phosphorus in this mixture, that was impossible. Or if he desired phosphorus and phosphoric acids with hydriodic and hydrobromic acids, why prepare these fresh? The following method yields a mixture which displays phosphorescence, smells of phosphorus, and contains the acids mentioned:

Dissolve the dry phosphorus in carbon disulphide and carefully add bromine and iodine; hydrolyse the orange-red residue by heating with 1 oz. of water and filter; dissolve the sugar in the sherry wine and mix.

Mr. DUNCAN said he had a similar pill to that with salicylic acid and soap, further complicated by the presence of menthol. The addition of a little yellow wax made a good pill, but he thought the better form is a capsule. Mercuric iodide should not be dissolved by means of potassium iodide. The prescriber probably desired the slow action of the sparingly soluble form of mercuric iodide.

Mr. COWIE thought the preferable plan with caffeine citrate and valerianate pills is to leave out the citric acid and use half the quantity of alkaloid.

Mr. BROWN said the mercuric iodide could be dissolved in ether and diffused through the mass. One grain of mercuric iodide may dissolve in 8 oz. of water without adding potassium iodide.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Simpson for his paper.

Winter Session of Chemists' Associations.

Brief Records.

"Our Association" was the title of a paper read by Mr. F. Mackay at the last meeting of the Dundee Chemists' Assistants' Association.

Matters of Local Interest only were before the Birkenhead and Wirral Chemists' Association at the meeting on Thursday evening, December 10. Mr. Hugh O. Dutton (Vice-President) was in the chair.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting for a discussion on pharmaceutical politics was announced for December 16, but our local representative has ascertained that the meeting was held last week, and was strictly private.

Bata Pharmaceutical Association.—A meeting was held at the Literary Institution on Thursday evening, December 10. Mr. E. W. Loveless (President) in the chair. Mr. D. A. Evans read a paper on the British Pharmaceutical Codex and the best method of increasing its usefulness, especially in the hands of the medical profession. Messrs. Loveless, Hawes, Cooper, Dann, Spurway, Snow, Wilson, Olds, Riches, and Pryke took part in a discussion which followed, and Mr. Evans was cordially thanked for his paper.

Lancaster.—A meeting of the Lancaster and District Chemists' Association was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Lancaster, on Thursday, December 10. Mr. W. Arkle (President) in the chair. Messrs. Angus, Cuthbert, Gorst, Jackson, Maxwell, Shattock (Secretary), Simpson, Whinneray, and Parker and Whitehead (Morecambe) were also present. It was unanimously agreed to join the National Chamber of Trade. It was also decided to hold the annual dinner on January 27, 1909. Mr. Maxwell was appointed auditor for the current year. The President, Secretary, and Mr. Whitehead gave an account of the meeting addressed by Mr. Glyn-Jones at Preston.

Oils and Fats.—There was a good attendance at a meeting of the N.E. Lancashire Chemists' Association, held at the Bute Café, Blackburn, on December 10. Mr. Wm. Holt (President) in the chair, when Mr. Percy Bean, F.C.S., of Manchester, gave an interesting address on "The Application of Simple Tests for Determining the Purity of Oils, Fats, and Waxes." The lecturer based his remarks principally on the examination of tallow (see *C. & D.*, March 28, p. 494). Messrs. Thos. Critchley, C. A. Critchley, W. H. Grimshaw, W. Pickup, R. L. Gifford, E. Rennie, and E. Raine discussed the paper, and Mr. Bean was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr. W. H. Grimshaw, seconded by Mr. Thos. Critchley, J.P.

West Ham.—A meeting of this district Chemists' Association was held at Earham Hall, Forest Gate, on Thursday evening, December 10. Mr. W. R. Barnes (President) in the chair. The Sunday opening of shops was discussed with a view to the reduction of the time to one hour, and ultimately Mr. White moved, and Mr. Soper seconded, that the question should be referred to the committee for consideration. A very successful smoking-concert was then held. It was well attended, and an excellent programme was contributed by Mr. G. C. Johnson, Mr. W. J. Llewellyn, Mr. E. V. Rippin, Mr. J. Spall, Mr. Fox, Mr. Edward Harvey, Mr. M. James, and Mr. James Hender, Mr. Burdett being accompanist.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association.—Mr. T. M. Clague presided at the meeting held at the Hôtel Métropole on December 9. Instead of "Trade Matters," which stands on the syllabus for March 10, it was decided to have a lantern-lecture by Mr. W. Wyatt, Ph.C. The subject of this evening was "The Polaroscope and its Applications," by Mr. H. W. Noble, Ph.C., who explained the theory upon which the instrument is constructed, and showed Laurent's half-shadow polariscope (lent by Messrs. Wilkinson & Simpson, Ltd.). He described its application in the examination of essential oils, camphor liniment, sugars, honey, etc. Remarks were made by the Chairman, Mr. Buckley, and Mr. Wyatt. Mr. Noble was cordially thanked for his paper. Mr. Clague announced that Mr. J. F. Tocher, Peterhead (President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference), has promised to be present at the dinner to be held on January 13, 1909.

A Varied Programme was gone through at the meeting of the Oldham and District Pharmaceutical Association at the Oriental Café, Oldham, on Tuesday evening, December 8. Mr. C. Gartside presiding. A smoking-concert was fixed for January 5, 1909, and the annual dinner for February 16. Mr. Holden spoke on the sale of spirituous medicines by small shopkeepers, and the President suggested a full discussion on the subject at the next meeting. A letter from the Oldham Chamber of Trade was read regarding the practice of quacks and travelling auctioneers coming on the town's market-ground and slandering the local tradesmen, and

after consideration Mr. H. Bagshaw and Mr. C. G. Wood were delegated to attend a meeting when called to consider what action to take. Mr. J. Shaw read a paper on the "Science of Memory," which proved to be most interesting, and in concluding he said the chief hindrances to a good memory were irritability of temper, eating to fulness, drinking to elevation, inveterate smoking, and similar over-indulgences. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Shaw.

Photographic Exhibition.—The Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association had an interesting exhibition of competitive photographic work by the members and a number of pictures on loan at 36 York Place on December 9. The latter included a specially illuminated case of direct three-colour photographs, sent by Dr. W. Inglis Clark; two beautiful Daguerrotypes, sent by Mr. William Duncan; and a photograph fifty years old, by Moffat, Edinburgh, showing great permanence in the print. In the section of contact prints the prize was gained by Mr. F. W. Clements, and in the section of enlargements by Mr. E. O. Rowland. Several of the exhibits by Messrs. Clements and Rowland and Mr. A. Sutherland were highly commended. A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Inglis, photographer, who adjudicated. During the evening Mr. J. P. Gilmour (Glasgow) congratulated the Association on the success of the meeting, which was social in character, an excellent musical programme being contributed.

A Presidential Meeting.—The Harrogate and District Pharmaceutical Association held a meeting at the Salisbury Hotel, Harrogate, on December 10. Mr. T. E. Handford in the chair. The meeting was for the purpose of hearing an address by Mr. J. Rymer Young on the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill. There were present Messrs. Branson, Beacock, Pilkington Sargeant, J. H. Gough, P. C. Sawyer, and H. P. James (Leeds), W. Norfolk (Ilkley), Swinbank (Bedale), G. Weston, G. Fenn, A. B. Pavton, G. Pattinson, C. Eynon, R. Hayton Davis, H. B. Rudd, W. F. Senior, J. R. Kirk, C. B. Southwell, H. C. Hines, F. P. H. Tuynar, H. G. Mitchell, A. Atkinson, W. J. Arnott, A. W. Wood, J. W. Harper, E. W. Lawrence, S. C. Halliday, and Percy L. Ridge. The Chairman cordially welcomed the President, who in an excellent speech dealt minutely with the clauses of the Bill as they had passed the Committee. In the discussion which followed Mr. Branson, Mr. Weston, Mr. Pilkington Sargeant, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Eynon, Mr. W. Norfolk, and Mr. Beacock took part. On the motion of Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. W. Norfolk, the following resolution was unanimously carried:

That this meeting of registered chemists of Harrogate and the West Riding of Yorkshire, having heard the explanation of Mr. Rymer Young of the policy of the Pharmaceutical Council in respect of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill and the amendments which the Council have succeeded in introducing into the Bill, desire to express their appreciation of the efforts of the Society to safeguard the interests of the craft, and desire to assure them of their confidence and support.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Rymer Young was carried with loud applause.

Pharmaceutical Problems were the subject of the discussion at the Thames Valley Chemists' Association meeting held at Kingston-on-Thames on Wednesday evening, December 16. Mr. E. T. Neathercoat introduced the subject in a lengthy paper, dealing with it under the headings Political, Commercial, and Social. He regarded the provisions of the Government Bill with favour. On the second head he said that one of the most interesting and important phases of modern pharmacy is the increasing number of women who qualify as chemists and fill various positions which have hitherto been occupied by men. Another important matter which must be of serious consequence to all is the rapid growth of the proprietary-medicine business in this country, the public being educated through huge advertising schemes to insist on packed goods under various trade-marks and private brands. One of the remedies for the latter is found, he said, in the introduction of the B.P. Codex. The advantages of the Pharmaceutical Defence Union were also referred to. Mr. Alfred Higgs, following the President, commented upon the amendment in committee of Clause 4 of the Bill, the effect of which, he said, is that the superintendent of a company's business has not to exhibit his certificate in the shop managed by him, although individual chemists have to. He considered that this would give facilities to a certain class and give rise to much unqualified trading; in fact, it amounted to giving the opportunity for driving the proverbial "coach and four" through an Act of Parliament. Mr. Windermere agreed that the alteration was very serious. He also called attention to the inadequate profit assured on some preparations which claim to have their prices pro-

ected, stating that 15 per cent. is only sufficient to pay the average working expenses of a pharmacy, leaving nothing for the proprietor. Mr. F. Harvey was not so optimistic as the President as to the calling of pharmacy, but he trusted much good and valuable benefits would be derived from the Pharmaceutical Defence Union. Messrs. Parrott, W. Peake, Evans, and Batty also joined in the discussion. Mr. Neathercoat, in reply to a vote of thanks, said he must take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. Higgs of the fact that last Sunday he celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of gaining his certificate at Bloomsbury Square. It was announced that the second whist-drive will take place on January 27, 1909, and at the February meeting a paper will be read by Miss Buchanan.

B.P. Codex.—At the meeting of the Western Chemists' Association held at the Restaurant Frascati, London, W., on December 16, Mr. R. L. Whigham presided. Among those present were Dr. G. W. F. MacNaughton, Messrs. H. J. Kluge, J. Cofman, E. White, H. R. Proctor (Hon. Sec.), H. Finmore, W. Browne, J. C. Shenstone, C. T. Allen, J. T. Barrett, J. W. Taplin, F. W. Gamble, J. A. Jennings, E. Beaton, and N. H. Schouar. Mr. Gulliver, in a short speech, called for suggestions and hints for the revision of the "British Pharmaceutical Codex." Dr. MacNaughton Jones wanted positive points and not negative facts left in the book, which was too redundant and bulky for the practitioner. The deletions he suggested were a large proportion of the botanical characters and the pharmacological notes on drugs, the latter, as in the case of senega, being sometimes controversial. The standardisation processes were to be cut down, as also test solutions to be omitted, while a rearrangement of the various forms of the same drug under one head is required. The subsequent speakers, with the exception of Mr. Finmore, all concurred with Dr. MacNaughton, and the consensus of opinion favoured the production of two books, one for the physician and the other for the pharmacist. Mr. Cofman desired the B.P. text to be in different type; also the modes of preparation of liq. arsenicalis and pasta hamamelidis required alteration and effervescent-tablets should be included, and many of the titles were too long. Mr. C. T. Allen thought inclusion of obsolete articles such as the balnea and prayer-seeds not necessary. Mr. Finmore did not desire any of the materia medica or tests to be cut out. Mr. Beaton wanted formulæ included for a miscible podophyllin preparation, hæmoglobin elixir, and humanised milk, the preparation given under the last title in the "Codex" being in reality a pancreatised milk. Mr. Browne thought aq. menthol. should be half the strength as in the new Bournemouth Formulary, which also contained the original one. Mr. Barrett said that in making glycerin of papain according to the instructions, the papain showed little tendency to dissolve. Liq. atropinæ co., which is used instead of the dirty glyce. bolland. by many practitioners, should find a place. The Chairman, Messrs. J. C. Shenstone, F. W. Gamble, and J. A. Jennings also spoke in favour of the abbreviated book for physicians. Mr. White, in a brief reply, stated the production of two books was under consideration, but the matter is one chiefly of finance.

Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the committee of this Society was held on December 16 at 11 Waring Street, Belfast, Mr. S. Gibson, J.P. (President), in the chair. There was a good attendance.

POISONS AND PHARMACY BILL.—The meeting was called to receive the report of the deputation which had been to London in connection with amendments to the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill. Messrs. Gibson and Suffern gave an account of the various interviews they had had with those in charge of the Bill. It was decided to have a general meeting of the members early in January and place the various matters before the trade, with a view to discussing the points at issue and deciding upon legislative action.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

At the meeting held at 73 Newman Street, London, W., on December 10, Mr. R. H. Brittain in the chair, Mr. T. Maben, F.C.S., contributed a paper which was entitled

NERO REDIVIVUS.

The cryptic title caused much conjecture among the members as to the nature of the communication, and Mr. Maben commenced with some explanatory remarks. The subject-matter of the paper was originally the policy pursued in recent years in connection with attempted pharmaceutical legislation. He believed that the way of treating the mischief which had for years caused trouble in pharmaceutical

waters was comparable to Nero's notion of fiddling while Rome was burning. If a haven had now been reached with the Bill shortly to be transformed into an Act of Parliament, they would know their position exactly and be able to reconstruct the profession of pharmacy in this country even as Nero did Rome. Leaving out the original intention of the critic, Mr. Maben then proceeded to outline the course to be pursued by the registered chemist in business for himself under the new conditions. The following are the main ideas:

Educate the public to the new title of "pharmacist" by using it whenever possible, by altering facias at once, and labels, if not at once, as early as convenient.

The personal factor will be more necessary than ever with the pharmacist of the future. The nature of the work undertaken should be such as to render it imperative that he shall do most of it himself.

Specialism in at least one side-line.

Substitute post-graduate courses in applied photography, optics, bacteriology, and physiological chemistry for Major examination, which should be dropped—in fact, don't have any examination in any of the subjects.

The Pharmaceutical Council to revive the Preliminary examination for students entering pharmacy. The increased income to be applied to the institution of the above courses at the School of Pharmacy.

The lecturer stated that a pharmacist with an intimate knowledge of photography would dominate the photographic *clientele* of the neighbourhood. Referring to optics he said that, thanks to a few ardent spirits and the fostering care of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, the chemist-optician is to-day a recognised entity in the social organism. The pharmacist, by virtue of his previous training, is better qualified to assimilate the knowledge necessary to be a successful optician than the average watchmaker, who was the optician of the past.

The increasing demand for urine analysis and bacteriological examinations opens out important fields in which the pharmacist may gain the confidence of the physician.

The lecture was listened to attentively, and in the subsequent discussion several Major men upheld the training required for the examination on the grounds that it was usually less hurried and more thorough than the Minor course and rounded off the requirements of the true pharmacist. All were agreed on the possible lucrative value of suitable side-lines.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held in the Regent Tea-rooms on December 10. It was a symposium on business topics with an interval for tea. Mr. J. P. Gilmour presided over a large attendance of members. Reference was made by the Chairman to the death of Dr. A. M. Robertson, and it was agreed to minute an expression of the Association's regret and sympathy, and to send an excerpt of the minute to the family. Five new members were admitted to the Association. The first topic dealt with was

STOCKTAKING METHODS

by Mr. J. W. Sutherland. The author said that stock-taking is of the utmost importance to all chemists. Very few assistants knew anything about it. It would be of advantage to the chemist and druggist if stocktaking were included in the subjects for the Minor examination. It is a good business habit that grows upon one. A man in business knew at the end of stocktaking whether he has made a profit or a loss during the past year, and he knows what the value of his business is if he wants to sell it. Chemists should take stock at least once a year. In Scotland March or April is the best time. Another advantage of stock-taking is that it checks the buying of stock—an absolute necessity with the multitude of stock chemists have to-day—and see whether it is increasing or decreasing. Entering into details regarding the process of stocktaking, Mr. Sutherland said they had to deal with such articles as bad stock—stuff practically useless and possibly dangerous in the hands of an assistant—soiled stock and old stock. Among the points noted by the author either in actual stocktaking or as an aid to taking stock were:

Bottles should be washed and marked.

Pills, where in broken bulk, require to be counted. Pills also can easily be weighed.

Goods should be priced on arrival.

Books should be kept in which to enter up all prices.

There should be systematic arrangement as to position in shop.

Periodical inspection of proprietary goods to see whether stock is increasing or decreasing.

Taking stock systematically and properly helps at once in placing or not placing an order.

Goods bought on "sale or return" to be entered in stock book.

In estimating the price of one's own proprietaries a fairly reasonable value should be allowed for putting these goods up—say, 10 to 15 per cent.

Weigh almost everything bought by weight.

Graduate bottles if not tared, so as to know weight of tinctures, extracts, glycerines, syrups, etc.

In estimating weights of various articles an average could be made. For instance, a fair average for majority of tinctures is about $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 oz. to the pound.

Put slips on bottles, drawers, or packets with weight.

For sundries note makers' names, prices, discounts.

Slump the cost of many articles, such as tooth, nail, and shaving brushes, sponges, smelling-bottles, thermometers.

Note whether toilet-soaps are in tablets, or quarter-dozen boxes or 1-dozen boxes.

Bandages, dressings, and waterproof sheeting should be measured, counted, etc., before actual stocktaking.

Soiled stock to be entered in sheets, and if repeated in the following year to be treated as in former years, with further depreciation.

Books required in chemists' business—cash book, showing cash taken and paid out; day book for goods sold to be added daily; customers' ledgers; credit book for goods sold on credit to customers; purchase journal; goods' ledger for buying from wholesale firms; totals should be taken out of books and put into an abstract book; bank book and cheque book. Balances should be struck at least once a week.

Furniture account and capital account should be kept. Write down furniture and fittings from year to year. A reasonable amount to deduct for fittings is $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

It is advisable to pay a small fee to a chartered accountant to go over one's figures and give a certified audit for income-tax purposes. This is money well spent.

In preparing a balance-sheet at end of stocktaking show profit-and-loss account, not only proportion of rents, taxes, insurance, salaries, bad debts, trade expenses, and bank balance. Abstract of balance-sheet should show:

Dr. Stock.	Cr. Capital.
Furniture and fittings.	Accounts owing by business.
Accounts owing to business.	
Cash in bank.	
Cash on hand.	

Mr. James Lennox introduced the next subject, viz.

CO-OPERATIVE BUYING.

Of this he has had six years' experience of a private scheme, and he said the essentials in any voluntary and successful scheme are "confidence in one another" and willingness on the part of all to meet liabilities when they fall due. There must be a real live man in every district to get into touch with all his neighbours.

SURPLUS STOCK EXCHANGE.

The Secretary (Mr. A. McMillan) exhibited a card-index system devised for this purpose, and explained its working. Two colours of specially ruled cards are used, one for rarer synthetic remedies, drugs, and proprietary articles, such as liquors, syrups, and mixtures used only in dispensing, the other for patent medicines and proprietaries for sale to the public. For convenience such a scheme should also be worked in districts, but he proposed that a trial should be made until the annual meeting in April, the index meanwhile being kept by him, and members needing small quantities of rarely-used articles could communicate by telephone and ascertain from him where these could be obtained. As lists had already been sent in from various districts of the city, the scheme is practically in working order. On the motion of the President it was agreed that the plan should have a trial. Mr. J. H. Hart then spoke briefly on

SPECIAL AGENCIES,

and specified the benefit and convenience which the members would enjoy were agencies for special series of preparations taken up in the various districts. He suggested that this matter should have the serious consideration of the Council, and this was ultimately agreed to.

Festivities.

At Reggioris'

On Saturday, December 5, the annual dinner of the staff of Messrs. Sangers, 253 Euston Road, London, N.W., was held. Mr. Arthur Fulford was in the chair, and was supported by members of the firm. About fifty were present, and after a good dinner the musical talent of the staff was drawn upon and proved to be of excellent quality, all enjoying the entertainment.

A Bohemian Concert.

THE London members of the staff of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. gave a highly successful Bohemian concert at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., on December 15. Mr. F. M. Fisk (European manager) presided over a large gathering, principally of the fair sex, and among others present were Mr. H. Hickey (vice), Mr. Robert C. Brown (manager of the Hounslow works), Mr. T. Maben, and Mr. A. E. Holden (Messrs. Fairchild Bros. & Foster). An excellent programme had been provided, many items of which were rendered by the employés of the firm, these including songs by Miss M. Clayton, Miss Ruby Holloway, Messrs. Sydney Jamieson, J. Pinto Nash, H. D. Bowden, mandoline solo by Dr. G. Piana, banjo solo by Mr. J. H. Bull, and violin solo by Mr. C. E. Pritchard, the latter executing in masterly style a composition by Mr. D. A. Ruffman entitled "Berceuse Russe," and another—"Sulla Laguna"—by Dr. G. Piana, the composers in both instances being members of the European staff of P., D. & Co. Mr. Sydney Jamieson was in excellent voice, that old favourite "Betty's Way" being followed by an encore, as indeed were most of the items given during the first half of the programme. The humorous element was represented by the inimitable Will Edwards in "The Insurance Agent," while the antics of Mr. Fred Willdon with his "Living Marionettes" drew roars of laughter. The clever impersonations of Vesta Tilley, Maud Allan, Eugene Stratton, Victoria Monks, and Genée, by Miss Anita Biletti, a rising young artist, were also accorded high praise; and lastly, mention should be made of a comedy sketch entitled "Mere Man," the rendering of which secured loud applause. At the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the artists by the Chairman.

Whist-drives.

THE Leeds Chemists' Association held a whist-drive on December 16 at the Old Bank Restaurant, Commercial Street. The drive, consisting of twenty-four hands, was taken part in by 112 ladies and gentlemen, twenty-eight tables being occupied. The prize-winners were as follows: Ladies, first (silver fruit-dish), Mrs. S. R. Kirk; second (album), Mrs. Leach; sealed number (flower-boat), Mrs. W. W. Pollitt. Gents' prizes, first (handbag), Mr. H. Dale; second (box of cigarettes), Mr. R. Milestone; sealed number (hobby-horse), Mr. T. Horner. The prizes were handed to the winners by Mrs. F. P. Sergeant.

A SUCCESSFUL whist-drive and dance in connection with the Scarborough Chemists' Association was held at the Brooklands Esplanade Gardens on Wednesday evening, December 9. The guests numbered 120. Mr. George Whitfield (President of the Association) and Mr. J. W. Chapman acted as M.C.s. The prize-winners at whist were: Ladies—1, Mrs. J. A. Smith, 153; 2, Miss Cox, 148; 3, Mrs. Longdin, 145; consolation, Mrs. G. W. Tindall. Gentlemen—1, Mr. J. B. Martin, 148; 2 (after a tie), Mr. W. Jackson, 143; 3, Mr. G. W. H. Meadley, 143; consolation, Mr. F. J. Pearce. Mrs. Whitfield presented the prizes. The ladies' first was a silver-mounted umbrella, the first for gentlemen a Gillette Safety-razor. Supper was laid in the billiard-room, and light refreshments were obtainable during the evening. At intervals songs were given, and a banjo-solo was also rendered. Dancing was kept up until about 3 A.M. Much credit is due to Mrs. J. W. Chapman, Mrs. Eyre, Mrs. Parker, and Miss Simms, who carried out the preliminary arrangements with such ability.

"WHAT was the name of that evil-smelling gas so much used in the chemists' laboratory?" "Suffragette hydrogen" said the up-to-date boy.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., December 17.

ALTHOUGH price-alterations in chemical and drug markets are few, there is a good undercurrent of business in many directions, which is somewhat unusual for the time of the year. About the only alteration in fine chemicals is an advance in morphine salts, following on the rise in opium, which also is very firm. Codeine is so far unchanged. Iodides remain firm, the bulk of the business going into makers' hands. Potassium bromide has been selling freely at the advance, but most German makers have now withdrawn, and English makers are not now sellers. Foreign tartaric acid and cream of tartar are easier. Quinine is steady; and, although bark declined 5 per cent. at Amsterdam last week, the sale is considered a good one in view of the quantity offered. Among drugs the tone generally is firm, with a fair amount of trading. This applies to Sumatra benzoin, cardamoms, ipecacuanha, dragon's-blood, etc. Ergot, cod-liver oil, and taraxacum are firmer. Peppermint oil has advanced 3d. A moderate quantity of Tinnevely senna has been sold from first hands at steady prices. Shellac is easier. Glycerin is 2l. higher. The table below gives the chief movements:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Gambier	Cardamoms	Ammonia	Copper
Glycerin	Cod-liver oil	sulphate	sulphate
Morphine salts	Ergot	Cinchona	Tartaric acid
Peppermint	Taraxacum	Cream of	(foreign)
oil (Amer.)		tartar	
Platinum and		Petroleum	
salts		Shellac	

Cablegram.

NEW YORK, December 17:—Business in drugs is fair. Opium is an advancing market, to-day's quotation being \$4.20 per lb., a rise of 15c. Cascara sagrada is dull at 8½c. Senega has advanced 2c. to 44c. per lb. Copaiba is firmer by 3c. for Central and South American, which is quoted 45c. Hydrastis (golden seal) is nominal at \$1.80. Bromide of potassium is higher at 19c., and peppermint oil in tins is strong at \$1.40 per lb. Jalap is nominal at 38c. per lb.

ACID, TARTARIC.—With practically no demand, the tendency is easier, foreign offering at from 10½d. to 10¾d. per lb., according to quantity and position, and English is 10¾d.

AGAR-AGAR is firm at 1s. 8½d. per lb. spot for No. 1 quality, and for shipment a good business has been done.

ALOES.—The s.s. *Kildonan Castle*, from Cape Town, has brought twenty-five cases.

ANISEED.—Russian is offering at 18s. to 19s. per cwt. on the spot.

BALSAM COPAIBA is steady at the advance noted last week, Maracaibo offering at 2s. 1d. spot, at which small sales have been made.

BENZOIN.—The sales this week include a parcel of good almondy Sumatra seconds at 8l. 5s., and about a dozen cases just arrived are also available at this figure. About 90 cases of Sumatra have been received at the warehouse.

BROMIDES.—The position remains unchanged, but exceedingly firm. English makers are not now selling at their

quoted prices, preferring to wait developments. Sales of German potassium in quantity have been made at the official price of 10¼d. net, but most agents have now withdrawn from the market. In second-hands a limited quantity could be had at about 10½d. per lb.

CANARY-SEED moves off slowly at 30s. to 34s. per quarter for fair to good Turkish and Morocco.

CARAWAY-SEED is steady at 38s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt. for ordinary to good Dutch on the spot.

CARDAMOMS.—Since the auctions fair business has been done in Ceylon-Mysore at full to firmer prices, including parcels just arrived.

CHILLIES.—At auction 15 bales of fair Zanzibar were bought in at 36s., and 19 cases of yellowish Japan at 25s.

CINCHONA.—At the London auction on Tuesday 416 bales of Java cinchona were offered, weighing 68,293 lb., of which 132 bales, weighing 21,968 lb., were sold at slightly easier rates, the average unit being ½d., against ¾d. at the previous sale. The following were the purchasers: The Mannheim factory, 7,218 lb.; the Frankfurt and Stuttgart factories, 7,000 lb.; Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ltd., 5,440 lb.; and the Brunswick factory, 2,310 lb. The prices paid were as follows: Ledgeriana branch, 2½d. to 3d.; Hybrid stem chips, 2½d. to 3¼d.; and Hybrid root, 3d. per lb. The shipments from Java to Europe during the first half of December 1908 amounted to 461,000 Amst. lb., against 747,000 Amst. lb. during the same period of 1907.

CLOVES.—At auction three cases of fine picked Penang were bought in at 11½d. Privately the market is quiet. January-March shipment has been sold at 4½d. to 4¾d. c.i.f. d/w.; for March-May delivery 5½d. to 5¾d. has been paid, and 5½d. to 5¾d. for June-August.

CODEINE is unaltered, makers quoting hydrochloride and sulphate at from 9s. 9d. to 10s., and the pure crystals at from 10s. 7d. to 10s. 10d. per oz., according to quantity. It is assumed in several quarters that possibly an advance may occur following on that of morphine salts.

COPPER SULPHATE is 5s. per ton easier at 20l. 10s. in Liverpool for prompt, and January to March delivery is 21l. to 21l. 5s.

CORIANDER-SEED is in fair demand at 11s. 6d. per cwt. for fair quality Morocco.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—With a quiet demand, prices are a shade easier, 98 per cent. offering at from 74s. 6d. to 75s., and 95 per cent. at from 72s. 6d. to 73s. per cwt.

CUMIN-SEED is slow of sale, but holders are firm at 42s. 6d. per cwt. for both Morocco and Malta.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD is steady. Fine reboiled Singapore lump is held for 11l., and small sales of fair reboiled lump have been made at rather less; bright bag-shaped lump has also changed hands at 10l., and for a parcel of fair bright seedy lump 8l. 10s. would be entertained.

ELEMI.—An arrival of 20 cases has taken place.

ERGOT is dearer and in fair demand. Russian is offered at from 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1¾d. c.i.f. terms, and on the spot holders ask 1s. 3d., which is an advance of 2d. to 3d. per lb.

FENUGREEK-SEED is quiet at 9s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt., according to quantity, for Morocco on the spot. The quotation for shipment is 8s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

GALLS.—Quiet, but steady; Persian blue offering at from 62s. 6d. to 65s., green at 47s. 6d., and white at 42s. 6d. per cwt.; for December-January shipment 56s. 6d. c.i.f. is quoted for blue, and offers at rather less have been refused.

GINGER.—At auction 297 bags of Cochin were bought in at 37s. for fair washed. Privately about 600 bags have changed hands at 36s. for washed rough Cochin.

GLYCERIN.—The refiners advanced their prices to-day by 2l. per ton to 75l. 10s. for double distilled s.g. 1.260 quality in tins and cases. The difference in price between cases and 1-cwt. drums in future will be 1s. instead of 2s. per cwt.

GUM ARABIC.—It is expected that some new shipments of Bushire so-called insoluble gum will shortly be on the market, so that there will be more inducement to buy. Ordinary to good, partly blocky Bushire sorts have been selling at from 11s. 6d. to 15s., and pale bold selected

amber at 21s. to 22s. per cwt. Soudan half-hard sorts sell slowly at from 34s. to 35s.

HONEY.—Very scarce. Californian is obtainable on the spot at from 45s. to 47s. 6d., and set Honolulu at 35s.; the latter is a good substitute for Californian, being exceptionally pale in colour, but not so full-flavoured as Californian.

INDIGO.—The area placed under indigo in the province of Bengal has once more fallen considerably in consequence of a dry season, and reached only 129,200 acres, as compared with 146,800 acres last year. The climatic conditions were generally unfavourable for the crop, and though Muzaffarpur anticipates 82 per cent. of a full crop the outturn for the province is not expected to be more than 65 per cent. of the normal, or some 22,545 factory maunds.

IPECACUANHA is steady, with small sales of fair Matto Grosso at 5s. 3d., and for Cartagena 4s. 3d. has been paid.

LINSEED continues firm at 48s. to 52s. per quarter for good quality.

MACE.—Quiet, but firm. Eleven packages of West Indian were offered at auction, of which part sold at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. for ordinary to fair.

MORPHINE.—As was foreshadowed last week the makers of morphine salts advanced their prices by 3d. per oz., and now quote the hydrochloride and sulphate powder at from 6s. 9d. to 7s. per oz. net as to quantity, the lower prices being for 1,000-oz. contracts for delivery over six months; crystals are the usual 2d. per oz. extra.

NUTMEGS.—At auction 26 packages of West Indian sold at 7d. for 70's to 74's, at 4½d. for 99's, and at 3½d. for 121's.

OIL, CASSIA.—It is reported from New York that the bulk of recent shipments of cassia oil of 75 to 80 per cent. c.a. are still under detention by the Customs, who have denied entry to this grade even when labelled "for technical use only." The attitude of the officials is regarded as unwarranted and unreasonable, especially as it is inconsistent with previous action, and no definite statement of future intention is obtainable.

OIL, CASTOR.—Hull make of pharmaceutical quality is quoted at 26l., and first-pressing at 23l. 10s. per ton in barrels for prompt and January-June 1909 delivery, ex wharf, London; cases 50s. extra.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on December 12 that during the past few days the market shows a firmer tendency, holders refusing to sell at the previous quotation of 59s. per barrel c.i.f. The exports from Bergen amount to 21,665 barrels, against 13,176 barrels at the same time of last year.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Forty cases have arrived from Melbourne per *Australind*. Market privately is quiet.

OIL, PEPPERMINT. is about 3d. per lb. dearer for Wayne County in tins, holders now asking 6s. 3d. on the spot, and to come forward 6s. 1½d. landed terms is quoted for a good brand, at which figure business has been done, but several others ask a higher figure. American H.G.H. is also firmer, it being said the proprietor of this brand is oversold; spot business has been done at 9s. to 9s. 1½d. London terms, but 9s. 3d. is now generally asked. According to New York advices the outlook is for still firmer prices owing to the attitude of some Western distillers who are holding for materially higher rates.

OILS (FIXED).—*Linseed* is easier at 20s. 7½d. in pipes and 21s. 9d. in barrels. *Cottonseed* is firm, with buyers of crude at 23s. 3d. on the spot; ordinary pale refined is quoted 24s. 6d., and sweet refined 26s. *Coconut* is quoted at 30s. 6d. for Ceylon on the spot and at 34s. for Cochin. *Rape* is nominal at 29s. 6d., English refined being quoted at 31s. in casks. *Lagos Palm* oil is 3d. better at 28s. 9d. *Petroleum* is quiet and easier at 6½d. to 6½d. for Russian, 6½d. to 7d. for ordinary refined American, and 7½d. to 8d. for water-white. *Turpentine* is a shade easier at 28s. 9d. for American on the spot.

OPIMUM.—The London market continues very strong, in sympathy with Smyrna and Constantinople, from whence reports indicate a continuance of unfavourable conditions regarding the next crop, but it is yet too early to give any accurate forecast. Cables to hand from Constantinople state there are buyers at 12s. 2d. f.o.b. and no sellers. Supplies of soft shipping qualities are very small, and on

the spot up to 18s. is said to have been paid for fine Tokat. Turkey druggists' is now quoted on the spot at from 13s. 3d. to 13s. 6d., but sellers are not anxious to go on at these prices. In Persian on the spot a good business has been done, but the market has quieted down during the past few days. High-test has been sold up to 14s. 6d., and for 10 per cent. 13s. 6d. to 13s. 9d. has been paid, while for January-February shipment 14s. is quoted.

A Smyrna despatch, dated December 11, states that the sales early this week amounted to 15 cases, new talequale at 12s. 3d., but subsequently, owing to serious reports as to frost damage to the opium plantations, sellers have withdrawn, and only a few needy holders are open to sell, but at an advance of 6d. to 8d. Our opinion is that buyers will pay this advance, and still higher prices will be the rule when large American consumers again enter the market. Constantinople is daily becoming exhausted, and shortly the only source of supply for manufacturing descriptions will be Smyrna, with a strong syndicate holding over three-fourths of the stocks. The arrivals to date amount to 1,941 cases, against 1,307 cases last year.

PEPPER.—At auction 100 bags of Singapore were offered, of which 87 greyish had been sold privately. Fair quality was bought in at 3½d.; 377 bags of Saigon siftings sold at from 1½d. to 2d., and 391 bags of *Long* pepper were bought in at 37s. 6d. Privately the market has been quiet, with spot sales of Singapore at from 3½d. to 3½d. for greyish to fair Singapore, and to arrive a good business has been done for January-March shipment at 3½d. to 3½d. c.i.f. d/w. Of *White* pepper at auction 84 bags sold at 4½d. for fair Singapore. Privately spot sales have been made at from 4½d. to 4½d., and to arrive good sales of January-March shipment have been made at 4½d. to 4½d. c.i.f.; on the spot fair is quoted 4½d.

PIMENTO.—Quiet, at 2½d. per lb. spot and at 19s. c.i.f. for December-January shipment.

POTASSIUM IODIDE.—The makers continue to report a good demand at the official prices of 7s. 11d. per lb. for 1-cwt. lots.

QUILLAIA.—Business has been done in Liverpool at 42s. per cwt. Hamburg appears to be bare of spot, and there are no offers at the moment for early arrival.

QUININE is steady, at from 7½d. to 7½d. per oz. for good brands of German sulphate, other less-esteemed makes being quoted at slightly less. The small demand is from consumers only.

SARSAPARILLA.—Eleven bales of Lima-Jamaica have arrived.

SENEGA is steady, with small spot sales at 1s. 11d. per lb. net.

SENNA.—The proposal to hold an auction of new consignments of Tinnevely senna this week was abandoned, but offerings (between 200 and 300 bales) were disposed of privately to various buyers at steady prices, including yellowish and third-class damaged leaf at from 1½d. up to 3½d. for small and medium greenish; in secondhands re-sales have been made at ½d. advance on these prices.

SHELLAC.—The spot market is easier, with small sales at from 82s. 6d. to 85s. for fair free TN Orange. Business has been done to arrive at 81s. c.i.f. for January-February shipment, and futures are lower.

TARAXACUM.—Foreign is firmer at 35s. per cwt. c.i.f. for whole, and for English 42s. is quoted.

TRAGACANTH.—Quiet, but steady. The demand is hardly expected to improve now until the turn of the New Year. Recent sales comprise Bagdad at from 11l. and 16l. and 5l. to 7l., also Persian at from 90s. to 110s., and good thin fourths at 9l. The quotation for Bagdad firsts ranges from 16l. to 17l. 10s., seconds 14l. to 15l. 15s., thirds 12l. to 13l. 10s., and fourths 9l. to 11l. per cwt.

Heavy Chemicals.

A quieter tone is apparent in the heavy-chemical market, and business generally is of a hand-to-mouth character. There is, of course, some business being done for delivery over next year, but consumers have not gained anything material by waiting so long. Values, on the whole, are steady and well maintained, concessions only being made in the case of really important business.

GREEN COPPERAS, owing to continued strong demand, both for home and export, and consequent scarcity, continues to maintain a very firm tone, and sellers hold out for full prices.

Best Lancashire makes 50s. to 52s. 6d. per ton f.o.b. Liverpool, and Welsh 18s. to 20s. per ton in bulk, free on rails.

ACIDS are on the whole in good all-round consumptive demand, and prices rule on the steady side. Nitric 84° Tw. 16l. 5s. to 16l. 15s. per ton, and 80° Tw. 14l. 10s. to 15l. 5s. per ton. Sulphuric acid 168° Tw. 60s. to 62s. 6d. per ton, and 150° Tw. 30s. to 32s. 6d. per ton, all naked. Hydrochloric acid 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per bottle.

ALUMINA PRODUCTS are on the quiet side for odd deliveries, but contract requirements show a very fair average. Prices generally are firm. Crystal alum lump 5l. 5s. to 5l. 12s. 6d., lump in tierces 5l. 10s. to 5l. 17s. 6d., and ground in bags 5l. 15s. to 6l. 2s. 6d. per ton on rails Lancashire and Yorkshire or f.o.b. Hull, Goole, or Liverpool. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities and practically free of iron, ordinary strength 4l. 12s. 6d. to 5l. 2s. 6d. per ton, delivered in usual casks with customary extras for similar pure quality in higher concentrations and ordinary allowances for bags and loose slabs. Aluminous cake 50s. to 55s. per ton. Alumino ferric 50s. to 57s. 6d. per ton, in accordance with quality, quantity, and condition. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and high strength Al₂O₃, 12l. 10s. to 13l. 10s. per ton free on rails in large casks. Special pulp hydrate of alumina 15s. to 17s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f., special pulp quality dried and in lumps 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt. c.i.f., and ground 38s. to 40s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. Aluminate of soda, purest quality and high strength Al₂O₃, 32s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt. Carbonate of alumina 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA continues on the weak side, and little of importance is being done. Present nominal figures, Beekton 11l. 7s. 6d., Beekton terms 10l. 15s., London 10l. 15s., Leith 11l. to 11l. 1s. 3d., and Hull 10l. 15s. to 10l. 16s. 3d.

Manchester Chemical-market.

December 15.

Although there are rumours of an advance in acetate of lime, inquiry does not confirm them in this centre. There are sellers of brown at from 5l. 15s. to 6l. per ton, while grey is quoted 8l. per ton. In fact, with a firm order for quantity these prices would be shaded a few shillings. The position of copper sulphate continues uncertain, the raw metal fluctuating under speculative influences, but a fair amount of business for delivery over next year is reported. Second-hand lots of glycerin in dealers' hands have been cleared at an advance of from 6l. to 8l. per ton on the rates of a month or two ago. Tartaric acid is more freely inquired for for export, at full rates, but oxalic continues weak, and may be obtained at about 3d. per lb., or fractionally under, for next year's delivery. Acetate of lead is easier, white offering at 23l. and brown at 19l. per ton. Coal-tar products are dull. Acetate of soda is quoted 16l. per ton.

American Drug-market.

New York, December 8.

Business in drugs continues of a routine jobbing nature, with speculative buying almost entirely absent. Bar the unsettled position of the bromides, there are no price changes of importance to record. Opium is again lower. Aloes, jalap, and mercurials are higher.

ALOES.—With an active demand in progress, Curaçao in boxes has scored a fractional advance to 7½c. Cape is firmly held at 8½c. to 9c., and aloin is on the verge of a rise in sympathy with the raw material.

BROMIDES.—For lots of 100 lb., the former quotations of potassium 13c., sodium 18c., ammonium 20c., are still in force, but in view of the recent sharp advance in foreign markets dealers decline to offer on contract or for future delivery.

CANADA BALSAM continues in limited supply, and values are steady at \$5.50 to \$5.75 for cans and barrels respectively.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Demand for export and domestic consumption has been slack, and for manufacturing supplies 8½c. is acceptable, although 9c. is reported paid for well-matured bark. Cheaper offers have been received from some quarters on the coast, but the general position there is fairly steady, and higher values are probable, with the not unlikely increase in demand early in the coming year.

COPAIBA.—The continued active demand for C. & S. American of U.S.P. quality has made severe inroads on the local supply, and the market has a firm appearance, with prices higher at 42½c. and 45c. Most dealers quote Para at an advance to 55c.

GUARANA is easy at \$1.75, with competition for the business exceedingly keen.

HYDRASTIS.—There is no abatement of the firm position at primary sources, and spot sales have been made at prices within the range of \$1.80 and \$1.90.

JALAP.—Seven per cent. drug is very scarce, and the available supply is under good control and held for the advanced price of 40c. Business is naturally light at this figure.

MERCURIALS are dearer by about 3c. at 82c. for calomel. 73c. for sublimate, in sympathy with the recent advance in metal.

OPIUM is dull and the case quotation has been reduced to \$4.05. (See cable.)

PEPPERMINT OIL has been in moderately active demand, and the prices, \$1.40 to \$1.50, are easily obtained for "tins." A good export business has been done in cases at \$2 to \$2.15. The primary market continues rather firm, and some of the larger holders are asking higher prices.

SENEGA is in good demand and steady at 42c. to 45c. for Western.

SPERMINT OIL is moving more freely into channels of consumption, and \$2.60 is asked.

Java Quinine Auction.

At the auction of quinine held at Batavia on December 16, 3,188 kilos. Ed. II. were offered, of which 3,044 kilos. sold at an average price of 10.70fl. (=3.10 cents Amsterdam unit) against 10.90fl. (=3.20 cents Amsterdam unit) at the previous auction.

Drug and Vanilla Auctions (1909).

The following are the dates fixed for next year's auctions:

		Drugs.					
		Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
Usual	...	14	11	11	7	6	17
New goods	...	28	25	25	22	20	—
		July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Usual	...	15	12	9	7	4	2
New goods	...	1, 29	26	23	21	18	—

Vanilla.

January 20, February 17, March 31, May 19, June 23, July 21, August 18, September 22, October 27, and November 24.

Quinine in India.

The demand for quinine in India at the present time, says "The Pioneer," is exceptionally great. Private importers are known to have sent urgent orders home. One large firm has been quoting 7½d. to 8d. per oz., or the equivalent of between Rs. 8 and Rs. 9 per lb., while the price quoted by the Government quinologist in India is Rs. 15 per lb. "The Pioneer" suggests that at the present time, when malaria has to be fought against all over Northern India and in Bengal, a big reduction in price should be made—Rs. 10 per lb. when 500 lb. is taken—and even lower rates for still larger quantities might be instituted. In many instances it is found that people prefer their quinine in tablet-form.

American Roots and Barks.

"Fur News," in its issue for December, states that the market for American roots and barks during November continued in the same rut in which it has travelled for the last few months, no speculative demand having developed. Certain articles have advanced, but the demand for botanical drugs is for immediate consumption. Golden seal has advanced, mandrake has been in fair demand at higher prices, and serpentine and wahoo bark of root have both been in stronger demand and are higher. Senega is in better demand. The following are prices paid by dealers in New York and elsewhere to diggers and small country holders. Angelica root 10c. to 12c., bayberry bark 5c. to 3½c., blood root, stripped, 6c. to 7c., Canadian snake root 18c. to 20c., golden seal \$1.65, mandrake 5c. to 5½c., senega (Southern) 40c. to 45c., senega (Western) 36c. to 38c., wahoo bark of root 22c. to 25c., wild-cherry bark, thin green, 5½c. per lb.

Sulphuric Acid in India.

Few plants for making this acid exist in India, the more important being at Calcutta, Cawnpore, and Ranipet. However, the imports of the acid have declined from 74,666 cwt. in 1903-4 to 54,813 cwt. in 1907-8, the corresponding values being 7,96,082 rupees and 5,59,651 rupees, and these figures should recede further as the output of the Indian factories increases. According to the "Indian Trade Journal," 96 to 98 per cent. sulphuric acid, costing 3l. 5s. to 3l. 10s. in England, landed in Calcutta costs 11l. per ton in 50-ton lots. It is stated the cost of erecting plant in Bombay to turn out 270 tons of sulphuric acid monthly would be 4 lakhs of rupees, and the cost per ton of acid 4l. 6s. 8d. However, the Tata Steel Co. propose to erect plant at a cost of 1½ lakh, and producing 4 tons of acid a day, at a cost of 3l. 6s. 8d. per ton, while the prices at another factory is 5l. per ton naked. This prime cheapness disappears, however, if the acid has to be transported any distance, the packing in carboys and railroad freight charges allowing sea-borne acid to undersell the Indian product. The demand for cheap superphosphates as fertilisers, renders it probable that sulphuric-acid plants will be erected in commercial centres of India.

SICILIAN CITRUS INDUSTRY.—H.M. Consul at Palermo reports, under date December 4, that the industry is passing through a period of great stress, hardly any business being done.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with Sir C. N. Dalton, K.C.M.G., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form No. 7, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office. The figures in parentheses refer to the classes applied for.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," December 9, 1908.)

- "GLADIATOR"; for goods (1). By Kittel & Co., Ltd., 5 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 306,991.
- "SUNPHAS"; for chemicals (1). By Sissons Bros. & Co., Ltd., Sculcoates, Hull. 307,712.
- "BLANKIT," "RONGALITE," "RHODAMINE," "RHEONINE," "NEPTUNE," "SORBINE," "CORVOLINE," "KRYOGENE," "TARTRAZINE," "OXAMINE," "ANTHRAZUROL," "PYRAMINE," "THIAZINE," "INDANTHRENE," "CYANANTHROL," "AUTOL," "TYPOPHOR," "ASTACINE," "CORVAN," "DECROLINE," "EUCHRYSINE," "AGALMA," "COSMOS," "PRIMAZINE"; for all goods (1). Label devices (two); for all goods (2, 3, and 4). By the Badische Co., Ltd., 2 Samuel Ogden Street, Manchester. 307,557, 307,580, 307,549, 307,555.
- "ZOTOS"; for all goods (2). By F. T. E. Souter, 37 Egerton Crescent, London, W. 307,114.
- "COFECTANT," "COEFFECTANT," and "DECTAS"; for liquid disinfectants (2). By E. Cook & Co. (Lim.), Bow, London, E. 307,885/6/7.
- "FOSTER'S BACKACHE KIDNEY PILLS," and label device; for pills (3). By Foster-McClellan Co., 8 Wells Street, London, W. 304,009.
- "URODONAL"; for chemicals (3). By Lucien Graux, 95 Avenue Kléber, Paris. 306,349.
- Label device; for medicines (3). By H. W. K. Pears, Goldstone Chemical Works, Hove. 306,418.
- "PHARMETTE"; for medicated wines (3). By G. H. Buckle, 11 Lilycroft Road, Bradford. 306,499.
- "RADICURO," and label device of triangle; for medical lotions (3). By J. S. Currie, 1 Park Corner, Whiteinch, near Glasgow. 307,268.
- "SONGLETS"; for all goods (3). By S. Atkinson & Co., Oldfield, Windermere. 307,482.
- "PYOCYANASE"; for chemicals (3). By K. A. Lingner, 2-4 Nossenerstrasse, Dresden. 307,860.
- "UNIFLEX"; for eyeglasses and spectacles (8). By G. Spiller, 3 Wigmore Street, London, W. 307,429.
- "VICEVOY," "SHIELDETTE"; for surgical appliances (11). By Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., 19-21 Lower Priory, Birmingham. 306,839, 307,260.
- "FORCE-ALL-IN"; for milk preparations (42). By the Universal Milk Powder Co., Ltd., 49 Watling Street, London, E.C. 306,654.
- "CREME-VITA"; for perfumed soap (48). By J. M. White, Arranmore, Clifton Park Avenue, Belfast. 305,261.
- "TOPSY"; for goods (48). By General Kaputine Syndicate, Ltd., Chald Lane, Wakefield. 306,316.
- "VELVEGINE"; for a toilet preparation (48). By the Velveine Manufacturing Co., 18 Poulett Road, East Ham, London, E. 306,491.

IN FRANCE there is no publication which corresponds to "The Art of Dispensing." The author, imbued with that practical spirit which is the leading characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon race, has collected in this work, with all the necessary detail, the methods of preparation of prescribed medicines (mixtures, powders, capsules, suppositories, pills, etc.). The chief feature of this treatise on pharmacy is that no fact has been omitted which might prove useful in the preparation of medicine by prescription. For instance, if a potion become cloudy, if an incompatibility arise, if a pill refuse to assume plastic consistency, the perplexed or irritated pharmacist has only to open his book, refer to the index under the heading of the medicine in question, turn up the page indicated, and there he will find an account of the trouble and how to remedy it. . . . All the methods of preparation are described in such a way as to lighten the task, often so troublesome, of the dispenser. . . . We are quite convinced that this work will be of the greatest value to pharmacists of the Riviera for whom an acquaintance with the English language and a knowledge of the pharmacy of our neighbours in the United Kingdom are becoming more and more necessary.—*Dr. G. Pegurier*, in "Bulletin du Syndicat des Pharmaciens des Alpes-Maritimes" (October 1908).



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. Publication of letters does not imply our agreement with the arguments or approval of the statements therein. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects presumably of interest to our readers generally. Letters received after the early posts on Wednesday cannot as a rule be dealt with in the current week's issue.

BUSINESS INFORMATION.—We have very full records of the makers or agents for articles and products connected with the chemical and drug trades, and supply information respecting them, by post to inquirers. Inquiries regarding any articles which cannot be traced in this manner are inserted under "Information Wanted."

A Doleful Outlook.

SIR,—The second reading of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill affords much grim humour. Firstly the Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department assures one that the organised (*sic*) chemists, drug-stores, and co-operative societies have become reconciled with one another. I here make a great effort to digest this *bonne bouche*, only to find that Mr. F. E. Smith, M.P., has insinuated the Serpent Doubt into the Pharmaceutical Eden. Next rises Cherub Winfrey, M.P. (instructed by the P.S.), to cast the Serpent out of Paradise, and incidentally chemists Adam and Eve, and to place at the gate the flaming sword of the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill. It is left to Mr. Idris, M.P., to act the part of the candid friend, which he does briefly (and ironically?) in the sentence "The only thing in favour of chemists was that in future they would be able to call themselves 'pharmacists.'" Even then there is a fly in the ointment, as is foreshadowed by Mr. Vivian, M.P., in his suggestion that the corporate bodies may call their places of business "pharmacies." The Pharmaceutical Society has taken hundreds of pounds from successful candidates for the Major, and now coolly assents to robbing these gentlemen of their only distinctive title. Reviewing the situation on the whole, a more emasculated policy could hardly have been devised even by our Council. This title of "pharmacist," with which it is proposed that we shall decorate ourselves, denotes one who practises pharmacy. What about the pharmacist who has no opportunity to practise pharmacy—the pharmacist who lives in one of the thousands of towns in England and Wales where the doctors do their own dispensing and supply surgical and sick-room requisites? How the P. and P.B. will help him!

Allow me for one moment to draw attention to the immediate results of this iniquitous Bill.

All over the country the drapers', grocers', ironmongers', and farmers' associations are keenly regarding this measure and urging their Parliamentary representatives to clamour for yet further concessions in the free trade in poisons. Furthermore, under the new Two Persons Company Act, hundreds of companies will spring up, many of which, especially in the smaller country towns, will only be too glad to utilise the title "chemist." The logical conclusion to be drawn is that no young man of average ability and the necessary educational attainments is likely to be attracted to a business requiring some considerable expenditure of time and money to qualify as a pharmacist, only to share most of the privileges with the great unqualified and to gain the right to dub himself with a title which most likely will be a misnomer. Last, but not least, all honour to Sir Henry Craik, M.P., who alone of all those taking part in the debate appears capable of presenting a broad and just view of the matter.

Bexhill, December 14.

R. W. ROBBINS.

"Too Utterly Stupid."

SIR,—The Poisons and Pharmacy Bill can only be regarded as another step in the development of the Limited

Liability Companies Act, which would have been more correctly described as "An Act to enable big capitalists to do what they please." . . . My idea has been, and is still, to make a fight to a finish for the rights established and enjoyed unquestioned for years under the 1868 Act, and this has never taken place owing partly to something like treason in the Council itself, as pointed out, I believe, by Mr. Broadhead at Leeds in October, and in a greater degree to the contemptible cowardice and narrow-minded individualism of the bulk of the trade. Thousands of chemists who, like me, were disgusted with the helpless twaddle talked at Bloomsbury Square, have been too utterly stupid to take vigorous part in or even help to support Associations started for the express purpose of pushing their neglected claims for the redress of injustice. Again, in many of the existing Associations, members appear to have spent most of their energies in making a sort of local "sugar-stick" in the way of electing presidents and vice-presidents, chairmen and vice-chairmen by the score—nearly all of them seem to have a stick to suck; and their spare energy has produced whist-drives and sing-songs. In fact, very many of the Associations might have been run by and for the apprentices, for any desire shown to make a real fight for the life of a trade with trade rights which have actually cost its members millions outside of an ordinary tradesman's outlay. . . . I am writing to express the opinion that the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill should be repudiated entirely while there is time to do so. Chemists should promote a Bill reasserting the rights implied and enjoyed unquestioned for some time after 1868. Failing prompt attention and success, the Pharmaceutical Society should hand over to the Government the expense of superintending pharmacy and of supplying qualified men to "act as cover" to unqualified drug-shops of all kinds. The Government would then find a job handed over to them, expensive in any case, and nearly impossible without the assistance of the very body of men whose fair claims they had flouted for years. The Government would have to climb down, for nowadays pharmacy cannot possibly be allowed the go-as-you-please style of old times. I cannot believe that the Apothecaries' Society or the College of Physicians—the only possible alternative bodies—would act as blacklegs, as they treat "acting as cover" as an infamous thing. Illegalities can be remedied even if they are old and committed by powerful bodies, and many instances could be given. I will instance the masterful, progressive London County Council, which had to leave off running omnibuses over the bridges when the omnibus companies demonstrated that the L.C.C. had no powers. The Stamp Department put a stop to the so-called illegal sale of unstamped remedies, though two or three generations had passed away before they started the campaign. . . . The most recent instance is found in the decision that trade union funds cannot be used for the purposes of Parliamentary representation of just one section; the non-Socialist trade unionists put a stop to the misappropriation of their money, which had been going on for a long time; in fact, refused to be comforted in baby-fashion with a "sugar-stick."

Yours truly,

ROBT. WILLSON.

[Three passages have been excised from Mr. Willson's letter without, we hope, affecting his argument that company-trading in pharmacy is spoliation, and that the present legislation makes it easier for companies to carry on the business of chemists and druggists.—EDITOR C. & D.]

The Sale of Poisons.

SIR,—It is now just about twenty years since I first took THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and I have taken it ever since. Like my friends, I am most annoyed to see that the old poisons that are worth selling are in future to be sold by village shopkeepers. I am thinking of giving up "the trade" and going in for "three acres and a cow" and a licence to sell poisons where rents are low and rates are ditto.

Yours very truly,

ONE OF THE FORSAKEN CHEMISTS. (50/33.)

[As a registered chemist our correspondent will not require a licence.—EDITOR C. & D.]

Hallucinations.

If the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill becomes law, writes *Cash Chemist* (190/1), all qualified chemists in stores may be known as "pharmacists," and some of them "pharmaceutical superintendents." This will distinguish them as educated scientific employes and organisers from mere counter-hands and packers, and may probably make for a solidarity among the qualified which has not existed before. Will this be a prelude to final absorption, by capitalistic enterprise, of the individual pharmacist once the odium is removed from store service? He proceeds:

I.

I thought I saw an Octopus
Perambulate the sands.
I looked again and saw that *boots*
Were on his feet and hands.
With pharmaceutical Oysters he
Was dancing sarabands.

His Oyster friends were not amused.
He said, "You seem to doubt
That I'm a Mollusc like yourselves,
Because I skip about."
They frowned upon his many feet
And wished he had the gout.

They sat down to a compromise.
(The day was rather hot.)
"Oh, Oysters!" said the Octopus,
"This is a pleasant spot."
But no one answered him, because
He'd eaten up the lot.

II.

I thought I saw a pharmacist
Reclining on a shelf.
I looked again and saw he was
Extremely like myself.
"This oyster business," I observed,
"Will not improve the pelf."

I thought I saw him turning out
His window. With surprise,
I looked again, and saw he'd found
A pound of high-dried flies.
I said, "In future, sir, I trust
This truth you'll recognise:

Moral:

"You need not fear the Octopus
If you will only rise
To your environment and sprout
Some *podia*. The prize
Is for the Mollusc that can move:
It's speed that wins, not size."

Poison-selling in Inverness.

SIR,—In your Editorial Comment this week entitled "On the Floor of the House," the following sentence occurs: "Mr. Annan Bryce revealed the fact that the grocers in his district deal in poisons to a great extent." Happily this statement is not true. The fact is, Mr. Bryce has been in frequent communication and consultation with pharmacists in his constituency on the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill, and, as he stated in Inverness a few weeks ago, *it was essential for the safety of the public that those who did apply for licences should come under the careful scrutiny of the local authority, as to whether they were suitable persons to hold a licence, and their premises adapted for dealing with such dangerous commodities.*

Yours very truly,

Inverness, December 14.

D. MITCHELL.

Unstamped Scales.

SIR,—Last week I had to appear before the County Bench for having in my possession a pair of unstamped scales and thirteen weights (although correct in weight). These scales were the ordinary type of scales used by amateur photographers. In my defence I stated that this class of scales is not used for trading purposes, but for scientific use, for the purpose of photography, for personal use only, and that in my experience of thirty years in the trade I had never seen a pair of scales of that class stamped; but, the police superintendent having sworn they were all stamped in the county, I had to pay 14s. 6d. costs. I should be

glad to know from your readers their views of the matter, and whether it is the custom of the trade generally to have such scales stamped.

Yours faithfully,
THE VICTIM. (140/22.)

[We understand that the scales were actually in use, so that the action was according to statute.—EDITOR *C. & D.*]

A Reply to Mr. Oldfosey.

SIR,—Far be it from me to sow the seeds of ambition in the contented mind of Mr. Oldfosey. Ambition entails growing-pains, and at his age these might prove fatal; still I cannot refrain from answering his candid and interesting letter in last week's issue of the *C. & D.*

Men like Mr. Oldfosey are the Rip van Winkles of the commercial and professional world. They have slumbered long—a decade or so—and even when awakened they do not realise all that has happened while they were peacefully sleeping.

Standards of living have changed. People and businesses may not live any longer, but they live more, and the chemist who now stays behind his counter and modestly refrains from telling the world all he knows about the virtues of his own goods, is apt to be buried before he is dead. Self-advertisement by means of newspapers, magazines, booklets, folders—self-advertisement by any and all means (so long as they are honest)—is to-day the first law of nature, because it means self-preservation.

Mr. Oldfosey does not understand how much things have changed. The young chemist of to-day would not be content to wash his own windows, sweep his shop, and feel that after thirty years' work he would find himself the possessor of only the very modest sum mentioned in Mr. Oldfosey's letter.

Mr. Youngblood, chemist, has ambition. He proposes that others shall do the drudgery while he puts his high-priced and diligently acquired education to other uses. He judges rightly that he cannot burn the candle at both ends. He cannot keep up with the advance in chemistry, in science, etc., and still be "a hewer of wood and a drawer of water."

To get 2*d.* for a headache-powder, to have ivy around his shop and also around his stock, is hardly in keeping with Mr. Youngblood's ambition. He hopes after thirty years of hard work to feel no anxiety about pecuniary matters, to own his shop and house, and to have a life-insurance where-with to console his widow. In short, he aims to have all the comforts and some of the luxuries of this life. To such a man Mr. Oldfosey's methods and their results point a lesson. Therefore ought the ambitious up-to-date young man be grateful to Mr. Oldfosey for showing him the way in which he must not tread if he wants to be both wealthy and wise in his generation.

Yours truly,
F. A. DEGEN.

Dispensing Notes.

Bismuth-and-Soda Mixture.

SIR,—Regarding mixture reported in this week's *C. & C.*, the above requires the use of hot water. Bismuth salicylate is dissociated by contact with water (*vide* "Squire") and effervesces with the sodii bicarb., sufficient CO₂ being generated to burst the bottle. We have lately had some trouble with a very similar mixture, and have found rubbing in a mortar insufficient.

J. I. THIRDE.

SIR,—Bismuth salicylate partly dissociates on contact with water or alcohol, with liberation of salicylic acid, consequently when mixed with bicarbonate of soda effervescence slowly occurs. I have known of a similar mixture to that given by "J. G." which, after standing a little time, blew out the cork.

Yours faithfully,

CHAS. H. DIXON.

Legal Queries.

Be'ore submitting questions for reply in this section please refer to the "*C. & D. Diary, 1909*" for the following subjects: Income-tax, p. 220; Pharmacy Law and Poisons, p. 216, (abroad) p. 211; Spirit Laws, p. 229; Stamped Medicines, p. 221; Trade-marks, p. 194; Wines, Sale of, p. 231; and Legal matters generally, p. 233.

Subscriber (Manchester) (142/46).—The words "skin-ointment" on the handbill bring the preparation on the

border-line of liability. See the paragraph "Skin" on p. 226 of the *C. & D. Diary, 1909*.

H. H. (136/2).—We dealt fully with the new regulations regarding measures, scales, and weights early this year, and the subject is epitomised in the new *C. & D. Diary*, p. 240.

Clestrian (142/39).—We cannot advise you to advertise yourself as the only qualified chemist in your street. Apart from the legal risk involved, it is not good business.

Yarm (133/16).—There is no law to interfere with manufacturers of proprietary articles who put on the market under substantially the same name two preparations, one containing a poison and the other free from poison.

H.S.O. (136/40).—We are unable to answer your query fully without seeing the covenant which you have entered into, but we should think the covenant would be sufficiently wide to prevent you from doing what you wish to do.

J. E. H. (136/16).—In our opinion a person who is not registered as a dentist is entitled to advertise "artificial teeth," "dental repairs," "old cases remoulded," and "extractions" without infringing the Dentists Act.

S. V. (144/30).—The account payable to the bankrupt estate should have been paid to the Official Receiver. The bankrupt has no more right to it after he has gone through the Bankruptcy Court than the man in the street. It belongs to his creditors.

Rhei (143/57).—If the house which you occupy is in an insanitary condition you should get the local sanitary authority to testify to the fact before you take any proceedings against the landlord. We do not, however, consider that you have any claim against the landlord, for the symptoms which you describe are more consistent with personal infection than insanitary conditions of your dwelling-house.

L. L. (136/48).—A proprietary medicine such as yours is not dutiable until it is sold in an enclosure; therefore, all the bottles in which you sell it to small shops must be stamped according to the price at which you sell it, provided the bottles are not to be sold again with contents. Small shop-keepers who hold a dutiable-medicine licence may retail the preparation in cups or other vessels brought by the customers, but not in enclosures within the meaning of the Act, without further stamping.

Jurisdiction (142/3).—Generally speaking, the proper court in which to commence an action is the court in the district in which the defendant resides or carries on business, or where the cause of action or claim wholly or in part arose. There are, however, several exceptions, and if you go to the county court in your own district the Clerk may assist you on the matter. If the proceedings are taken in the county court in the district in which the defendant resides, you are entitled to have reasonable expenses added to the amount of the judgment.

N. Sub. (132/51) has for some years had a cost guessing competition for money prizes. Each competitor had first to buy a bottle of cough-mixture, with which a coupon is given. The police complained. Now "N. Sub." proposes to give a coupon to any person who asks for one. Will this legalise the competition? [We are of opinion that the competition, not being one the result of which depends entirely on chance, is not a lottery within the meaning of the Lottery Acts. The distribution of prizes depends largely on chance, but not entirely so, and the decided cases show that to constitute a lottery the result must be a matter depending entirely upon chance.]

Emerlad (138/29).—It is unlawful to keep open shop in Ireland for the "retailing, dispensing, or compounding poisons or medical prescriptions" unless it is owned by a pharmaceutical chemist or licentiate apothecary, who shall personally conduct such shop or have as assistant or manager in it a pharmaceutical chemist or licentiate apothecary. A pharmaceutical chemist who amalgamates his business with that of a registered druggist cannot lawfully keep open the latter's premises as those of a pharmaceutical chemist so long as the registered druggist is a partner. The druggist would be liable in respect to every medical prescription dispensed in the shop, whether by himself, pharmaceutical chemist, or licentiate apothecary.

Apoth. Assistant (59/40).—(1) The use of non-Pharmacy Act titles will not be affected by the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill. Clause 3 alone deals with titles, and refers solely to the conduct of businesses carried on by pharmaceutical chemists, chemists and druggists, bodies corporate, and firms in Scotland. (2) White-precipitate ointment will continue to be a poison. It is not at present named in the Schedule, but the Armon decision brought preparations of poisons within the Schedule, and in the new Schedule "all preparations or admixtures" of poisons not included in Part I. (with

the exceptions named) are included in Part II. of the Schedule. (3) The sale of mineral acids is not to be restricted except as to labelling with the name of the article, the word "poisonous" and the name and address of the seller, who may be qualified or unqualified.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months. A preliminary condition for reporting on samples submitted is that all particulars as to source and uses are given to us.

S. (145/30).—LANOLINE MILK (P.F., p. 11).—Our subscriber finds a difficulty in making above, as, although a perfect fluid when first mixed, on standing some of the wool-fat separates. We may say that there is an excess of lanoline in the formula, with the object of securing as much as possible in the "milk." The excess, however, increases the difficulty of manipulation. The following modification presents no difficulty in making and affords rather a whiter fluid:

Pulv. saponis	...	...	3iv.
Pulv. boracis	...	...	3ij.
Lanolin.	...	...	gr. 320
Ol. cocos	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. tragacanth.	...	...	gr. xij.
Aq.	...	...	3vij.

Rub together for a quarter of an hour, then add gradually and with constant stirring—

Aq. rosæ (40° C.) ... 3x.

Shake well and perfume.

M. A. T. (137/27).—We cannot undertake to obtain appointments abroad for chemists. You should keep your eye on the "Situations Open" section of our Coloured Supplement.

Chemicus (101/42).—STIMULATING AND ANTISEPTIC HAIR-LOTION:

Almond oil	...	...	½ oz.
Solution of ammonia	...	...	3 dr.
Formalin	...	...	1 dr.
Jockey Club bouquet	...	...	2 dr.
Tincture of cantharides	...	...	6 dr.
Eau de Cologne	...	...	2 dr.
Distilled water to	...	...	6 oz.

Mix.

R. M. S. (143/19).—RAT-POISON.—In the current edition of "Pharmaceutical Formulas" the beef dripping in both formulas for rat-paste has been increased from 3 oz. to 5 oz., with the result that the paste is softer. Equal parts of corn-flour and powdered sugar may be used in place of powdered bisquit to mass the fat, and 10 per cent. of glycerin may also be added.

K. C. B. (127/42); F. (130/54); Radix (135/5).—COLOURING ELECTRIC-LIGHT GLOBES.—We gave the method of colouring electric-light globes red in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, June 6, p. 881. To this we may add that the varnish best adapted to this kind of work is photographer's negative-varnish, which dries very hard. The resins in this varnish are sandarac and mastic, and the ground-glass varnish may be used where a frosted appearance is required. The following are two representative formulæ, the first one to produce a clear varnish and the second one a matt product. Any suitable aniline dye can be added to the finished varnish—aurantia, malachite green, erythrosin, etc.

1.			
White hard spirit-varnish	...	...	15 oz.
Rectified spirit	...	...	20 oz.
2.			
Sandarac	...	...	90 grains
Mastic	...	...	20 grains
Ether	...	...	2 oz.
Benzole	...	...	2 dr. to 1½ oz.

The second varnish is applied to the cold globes, but the first is best used on the lamps when the latter are hot. The varnish is placed in a tumbler, the globes, previously freed from grease, are dipped in, and then the lamps are taken out and allowed to dry. Several other suggestions have been made for colouring electric-light globes, some of which were indicated in the C. & D., June 6, p. 881. To these we may add the method of using stained collodion (this does not last long, as the films peel off under the heat), the use of alum solution coloured with cochineal, the Clague method with coloured gelatin solution, and a simple solution of aniline dye in amyl acetate. The many requests we have had lately show that there is a demand for a simple process

of colouring electric-light globes—they are much in request for window-decorations. Some of our subscribers may perhaps make additional suggestions or give a process which has been found to yield a comparatively permanent coating.

C. L. W. (66/45).—BOOK ON MASSAGE.—Since our reply to your inquiry in the C. & D., October 17, p. 634, our attention has been called to the following book, which, we think, would suit your purpose: Palmer's "Lessons on Massage," 7s. 6d. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox).

W. H. (141/5).—CLEANING KID GLOVES.—The quillaia glove-cleaner, for which a recipe was given in the C. & D., October 24, p. 669, is employed for this purpose, and answers well.

"A." (129/41).—OVARY-TONIC FOR POULTRY.—The syrup referred to in the C. & D., November 21, p. 807, is administered by adding a teaspoonful to the drinking-water of each dozen fowls. The dose is given daily for a week and then, after a week's cessation, repeated.

R. G. N. (141/38).—CURING MOLE-SKINS.—This is a similar process to that employed for rabbit-skins (see C. & D., December 21, 1907, p. 953).

R. B. (129/71).—METHYL-SALICYLATE OINTMENT.—The compound ointment is employed as an external remedy for rheumatism and lumbago. The Glasgow formula (ung. methyl. salicylat. c. menthol.) is good, and makes a similar product to those which are popular in some chemists' businesses in the Midlands.

Methyl. salicylat.	...	...	3v.
Menthol.	...	...	5j.
Eucalyptol.	...	...	3ij.
Ol. cajuputi	...	...	3ij.
Ceræ albæ	...	...	3ij.
Ung. lanæ hydros. ad	...	...	3x

J. M. E. (136/69).—STEAMY WINDOWS.—It is usual to apply soap in some form for preventing windows steaming. The soap may be either in powder or in the form of soft soap. A film of glycerin and water on the glass is stated to answer the same purpose.

"F." (141/49).—PICCALILLI.—A formula for the liquid part of this pickle was given in the C. & D., June 29, 1907, p. 980.

J. G. Y. (126/57).—OPTICAL DIPLOMAS.—The details regarding these were given in the C. & D. Educational Number (August 15), and are set out at greater length in "The Chemist-Optician" (office of the C. & D., 4s.).

K. C. B. (127/42).—STONE-PRESERVATION LIQUIDS.—You will find in the C. & D., March 9, 1907, p. 400, and August 3, 1907, full particulars of Professor Church's processes of preserving stone. Formerly silicate of soda was employed, but the newer method involves the use of baryta-water.

Capitum (138/44).—We suggest that the old-fashioned bandoline (a tragacanth or gelatin paste) is what your customer wants when he asks for something to make the hair stand up. Formulæ for bandoline, both varieties, are given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

A. J. C. (123/44).—The general practice to prevent cracks in the glass of showcases from spreading is to scratch the surfaces beyond the crack with a glazier's diamond. If there is stress on the glass, as often happens, particularly in the case of bent-glass showcases, this remedy may be unavailing. In this case the crack should be covered with rubber-tape plaster and the glass supported on the inside with a wooden support.

W. S. & Co. (141/2).—HORSE-COLIC DRINK.—The active ingredient in the sample of colic-drink is chlorodyne. The dose of veterinary chlorodyne for colic is ½ oz., but in the sample you send there appears to be also aloes present. A good colic-drink on these lines would be the following:

Aloes	...	...	2 dr.
Ammonium carbonate	...	...	½ oz.
Veterinary chlorodyne	...	...	1 oz.
Sweet spirit of nitre	...	...	1 oz.
Water to make	...	...	12 oz.

Mix. For one draught.

A. W. (124/40) and E. R. (133/28) inquire for a vegetable substitute for rennet in the production of junket. Can any reader give information on this question?

W. E. B. (125/9).—RIFLE-BARREL CLEANING.—The best method seems to be that in which ammonium persulphate is employed with a small percentage of ammonium carbonate. Two 1-gram tablets of such a mixture are crushed and dissolved in 40 c.c. of a mixture of liquid ammonia and water. The process is, however, covered by a patent which we believe is still in force.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Wednesday, December 16th

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, North British Branch, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8.30 P.M. Evening meeting. Mr. John Lothian on "Ichthyol-Resorcin Soap"; Mr. D. B. Dott on "Apomorphine Hydrochloride" and "Red Lead"; Mr. Dott and Mr. J. Wilson Douglas on "Sulphur Compounds in Illuminating Gas"; Mr. Gilbert Simpson, "Dispensing Problems."

Western Chemists' Association, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford Street, London, W., at 9 P.M. Mr. W. F. Gulliver will open a discussion on the "B.P. Codex."

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, Chemical Club, Victoria Hotel, at 7.50 P.M. Discussion on "Pharmaceutical Politics."

Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association, Calvert's Café, Long Row, at 8.30 P.M. Mr. J. W. Russell, lantern-lecture on "Nottingham and Men who have Helped to Make it."

Thames Valley Chemists' Association, Kingston Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, at 8.30 P.M. Mr. E. T. Neathercoat (President) on "Pharmaceutical Problems."

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association, Star and Garter Hotel, at 8.30 P.M. Mr. W. R. Dunn on "Ancient Pharmacy."

Leeds Chemists' Association, Old Bank Restaurant, Commercial Street, at 8.15 P.M. Whist-drive. Tickets, 1s. 6d. each, from Mr. J. R. Bentley, Hon. Secretary.

Thursday, December 17.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W., at 8.30 P.M. The following papers will be communicated: "Silicon Researches. Part XI. Silicotetrapyrrol," "Silicon Researches. Part XII. Action of Silicon Chloroform on Potassium Pyrrol," and "Silicon Researches. Part XIII. Silicon Halides and Pyridine, Acetonitrile, etc.," by Dr. J. E. Reynolds; "The Affinity Values of Tropine and its Derivatives," by Dr. V. H. Veley.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, London, W., at 9 P.M. Musical and social evening.

Brighton Association of Pharmacy, 52 King's Road, at 9 P.M. Annual report of Buying Club.

Friday, December 18.

Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association, Gervis Hall Restaurant, at 8.30 P.M. Mr. J. A. Haynes (President) on "The Chemist of Yesterday and To-day."

Dundee Chemists' Assistants' Association, Mather's Hotel. Social evening. Tickets, 1s. each, from the Hon. Secretary.

Where to Study.

The following educational institutions are advertising in this issue:

Muter's (South London) School of Pharmacy, 325 Kennington Road, London S.E.

Westminster College of Pharmacy, 402 Clapham Road, London, S.W.

London College of Pharmacy, 323 Clapham Road, London S.W.

South of England College of Pharmacy, 186 Clapham Road, London, S.W.

Northern College of Pharmacy, 100 and 102 Burlington Street, Manchester.

Manchester College of Pharmacy, 225a and 227a Oxford Street, Manchester.

Leeds College of Pharmacy, Clarendon Road, Leeds.

College Notes.

BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.—The students spent an instructive afternoon on December 4 at the Bath Electric Power Station. The details were fully explained, the machinery, water-purifying apparatus, and economisers all proving of great interest.

BATH COLLEGE A.F.C. v. Y.M.C.A.—The College men entertained the Y.M.C.A. team, who were stronger than anticipated, on December 3. The game was fast throughout, and resulted in a draw of one goal each.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND COLLEGE v. LONDON COLLEGE.—The teams met on the former's ground at Acton on December 5. The London team from the kick-off ran the ball down and scored.

During the continued attack the "Souths" were penalised for handling, but the first penalty kick was disallowed, and Williams saved the second attempt. The "Souths" now took up the attack, and eventually scored through Coltman. Dowson scored a second goal for the "Souths" immediately after the interval, and, Coltman adding a third, the home team won a fast game by three goals to one. For the home team Davis (centre-half), Coltman, Dowson, and White (forwards) were prominent, while for the Londoners Walmsley (left back) kicked well.

GLASGOW SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.—At the Students' Conversation, held in the Regent Halls, Glasgow, on December 4, over 140 ladies and gentlemen assembled, including Mr. and Mrs. John Lothian, Dr. and Mrs. Forrester, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Gilmour, Mr. and Mrs. James Lennox, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fenton, Mr. W. L. Currie and Mr. George Maekie (Glasgow), and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Meldrum (Irvine). An excellent musical programme was rendered by the Misses Macleod and Simpson, and Messrs. Dickson, Gilmour, Howat, Macleod, and Macdonald. Mr. J. P. Gilmour presided at tea, and Mr. W. L. Currie presented the Kinninmont gold medal to Mr. Donald Mackenzie. A collection on behalf of the Benevolent Fund realised 17. 3s. Dancing continued until 2 A.M., Mr. George Hair acting as M.C. The entire function was voted a thorough success.

The Week's Poisonings.

EIGHTEEN fatalities with poisons have been recorded during the week. The poisons taken include two in Part I., and ten in Part II. of the Schedule, while six are unscheduled. Two of the deaths were caused by misadventure, and doubt exists as to suicidal intent in four instances.—Samuel Alfred Bisland (32), described as a Dublin chemist (but whose name is not on the Irish Register), was found dead at a Bloomsbury boarding-house. At the inquest it was shown that death was due to picrotoxin and morphine poisoning. The deceased suffered from bad teeth and blood-poisoning, and took drugs for sleeplessness. The jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure.—An unknown man was found dying from prussic acid poisoning in a railway carriage at Eastleigh.—Harold Palmer, clerk, Liverpool, committed suicide by means of carbolic acid.—An open verdict was returned at the inquest on the body of Richard Bartlett, grocer, who was found dead in his office at Garstang with a bottle containing carbolic acid lying near.—A similar verdict was returned respecting George W. Hill (65), gardener, who died from carbolic acid poisoning at Tottenham.—W. Grobecker, agent, Ramsgate, used oxalic acid as a lethal agent when suffering from insomnia.—William Boniface (45), ship's steward, committed suicide at Putney by taking oxalic acid.—Elizabeth Watson (45), West Ham, died from laudanum-poisoning. The jury returned a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane.—John Bonar (26) died at Perth from an overdose of laudanum, but whether it was accidental or intentional is not known.—An open verdict was returned at the inquest on an unknown man who died in a Fulham lodging-house from opium-poisoning.—Frederick T. Walton (25), groom, took laudanum as he was in straitened circumstances. "Suicide," said the jury.—Millie Ruston (46), trained nurse, poisoned herself with "mercury potassium" (iodide?) tablets at a Chelsea nursing home. The deceased was a victim of the drug-habit.—Gilbert V. B. Simpson (20), a Crewe jeweller's assistant, took vitriol on account of a lovers' tiff. He died the same day.—Salt of lemon caused the death of Edwin Radford, stableman, Walcot. He had recently lost his situation.—James H. Bradeley, Secretary to the Church C.C., was found dead on the club's ground. Death was apparently caused by a poisonous acid.—George Cooke (39), needle-stamper, Redditch, took a poisonous liniment by misadventure instead of neuralgia-mixture. At the inquest medical evidence stated that there appeared to be iodine in the stomach-contents.—John B. Cole (60), an unemployed meat-porter, Walworth, ended his existence by taking spirit of salt. A juror commented on the large quantity of poison remaining of the pennyworth purchased.—Francis Street, labourer, Camberwell Green, poisoned himself with spirit of salt.

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